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SOVIET UNION POLITICAL AFFAIRS

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DELEGATE SPEECHES AT 20TH KOMSOMOL CONGRESS PUBLISHED

Smirnov, First Secretary of the Moscow City Komsomol Committee

Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 16 Apr 87 p 8

[Delegate speeches at the 20th Komsomol Congress held in Moscow 17-18 April 1987: "Discussion of the Reports of the Komsomol Central Committee and Central Auditing Commission"]

[Text] The atmosphere of truthfulness and exactingness that has been created in the party has turned us toward the real state of affairs. We awaited the 20th Congress and prepared for it in order to determine the profound causes of the manifestations of crisis in Komsomol, to assume responsibility, and to find guarantees that the mistakes of the past will not be repeated.

I will state frankly that even after the 27th CPSU Congress we were unable to understand for too long a time that no one is going to start restructuring for us. Today we have taken the first steps. We have changed the structure of administration, we have reduced by one-third the staff of the gorkom, we have strengthened the rayon Komsomol committees, and thanks to job evaluation we have taken a critical view of ourselves as bureaucrats and petty officials. We have been fighting with a flow of paper as our weapon. We made the decision to restructure, but we became exhausted. We liked ourselves the way we were.

The Komsomol Central Committee also became lost in this complicated period. Lenin's precept--to the young people--I would rather address to the personnel of the Central Komsomol Committee. We cannot recall when the leaders of the Central Komsomol Committee came to us in the gorkom, and yet we are right next door. Apparently the secretaries of the Central Committee do not deem it necessary to do this. What we do get from the Central Komsomol Committee...are decrees, they fly like flocks of paper pigeons over the heads of the Komsomol members. And the old approaches and operating procedures are defended in an absolute majority of them.

In the plenum of the Central Komsomol Committee a year ago we brought to a head the issue of the need to set up a unified cost accounting system of youth work associations. We managed to get insertions made in a decision of the Bureau of the Central Komsomol Committee, we knocked on the doors of the

departments, we argued, and we supplicated. But today this problem has again been put off till tomorrow.

The bewilderment, even the fear of the scale of the economic changes in the country, have had the result that people show a desire to concern themselves only with leisure, to narrow their aims to those concerned with entertainment. There is a growing tendency toward consumerism, toward parasitism. The way out of the situation lies in real concrete deeds. We have defined them. MZhK members are building 22,000 housing units in Moscow during this 5-year planning period. We are setting up in the city cost-accounting "Application" bureaus, Komsomol youth sections and shops, creative collectives, and storehouses of the firm "Molodezhnaya moda" ["Youth Fashion"].

Without waiting for decisions to come down from above, with the support of the city's party authorities, we have been setting up councils to work with young people, we have been introducing Komsomol orders, there are youth sections in the plans for socioeconomic development, and collective contracts. There are many problems in this effort. But the activity of young people and their interests in the effort have grown appreciably. This means that this is the right road. But we will not oversimplify the problems. Support of Komsomol from the state and legal apparatus will not replace the youthful militance of the organizations themselves. As we often have occasion to hear: Komsomol has become toothless and too correct. No wonder, when as recently as a year ago the Moscow City Komsomol Committee had to seek written request from the city party committee on even the slightest matters, and consent often depended on the ability to fill out a piece of paper. It had been that way for decades.

Many party officials have had occasion to experience quite a few unpleasant minutes in the report-and-election assemblies and conferences that have taken place. Now election to the Presidium does not protect one against sharp questions and criticism. Criticism for petty meddling, for the desire to make Komsomol committees a carbon copy of themselves. Life is easier that way. The manager can plan far ahead.

There is much that needs to be changed concerning party guidance of Komsomol. We the party's youth organization have our own traits which are inherent in us alone. The restructuring in Komsomol depends on the restructuring of the guidance that comes from the party. The decree of the CPSU Central Committee on the party guidance of Komsomol is not being carried out everywhere by any means. As a party member I want to say this: There is a need to change the very character of relations and to break up the stereotypes in the style "everything just like we do it."

The problems of bringing up young people long ago outgrew the limits of our organization. The role of our representatives in soviets, trade unions, and public organizations is limited to a timid presence, and we do not call them to account for this. For some reason we shy away from expressions like "protect the rights of young people." It serves us right if today we seem extreme.

Comrades! We need to act. And through action to involve young people in solving political, economic, and social problems. This is our duty. We will perform it.

V. Gurin, First Secretary of the BSSR Central Komsomol Committee

Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 16 Apr 87 p 8

[Text] The time that has passed since the April Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and 27th party congress has become for us a school of civic responsibility that cannot be compared to any other. And at this point it is very important that the energy of young people that has been awakened not be spent on empty rhetoric, peevish petty criticism, useless vanity, and parasitical motives.

In a number of Komsomol organizations in the republic they have been altogether unable to extricate themselves from the ruts of formal restructurings, which only create the illusion of renewal. Instead of plans, for example, they draw up comprehensive programs for individual effort, but just as before, no time is found to help the new person in the collective, to visit a sick comrade, to write a letter to someone in the armed forces. But what is the value of noisy discussions when people become hoarse discussing the problem of buying a ball that costs a ruble through a credit transfer or the question of whether the raykom secretary should walk or go by car?

The same thing can be said about criticism. While it may seem very harsh on the outside, often it turns out to be toothless in essence, since it is not related to a search for constructive solutions. Sometimes these people look for the guilty parties "up above," forgetting to engage in an exacting evaluation of their own position. Others by contrast find a convenient screen in unsparing self-flagellation, while behind it they can go on in the same old way. Who is not aware of how many critical arrows we have let fly at light industry--for product quality, for style, and for the colors of products. But is it fair to forget that half of the workers in that sector are young people, beginning with the designers? That is why even today there are 40 specialized Komsomol-youth production lines and shifts in the republic's enterprises for manufacturing especially stylish products. With the vigorous participation of young people every year three-fourths of the branch's basic product mix is being updated, designs of the symbols of the homeland are being introduced, and good-looking and comfortable special clothing is being developed and manufactured.

A restructuring can be accomplished in Komsomol only by relying on the best and progressive segment of young people. But it is disturbing when often the person who strives to shout more loudly from our well-known "ladder" becomes an object of imitation. The authentic mover, the fighter for restructuring, often fails to get our attention.

I call upon you to give of yourselves: What do we know about the best young mechanization experts, managers, apprentices, steelmakers, and designers in our country? Unfortunately, the opinion will be quite unanimous: We know

embarrassingly little. On the other hand we have heard quite enough about the adventures of "moths." In the dust of the battle against formalism we have hastily "written off into the archives" tried and true methods of working with young innovators, and now we ask in amazement: What happened to our lighthouses? After all, those who likened themselves to the wise Shchedrino mudsucker and acted according to the principle of "don't stick out your neck" and "it is no concern of mine" felt quite at ease in the vacuum that had been formed.

During the reports and elections in advance of the congress many demands were expressed for expanding the authority of Komsomol committees. But there is another side to this as well. We in the republic have been trying to penetrate deeper to the heart of the problem. It has turned out that only one out of every five Komsomol secretaries in the production workplace actually takes part in deciding the questions of hiring and discharging young people and the allocation of housing. Although, comrades, the rights of Komsomol are set down in the BSSR Labor Code. The reasons are above all incompetence, the lack of persistence, and the reluctance to spoil relations with the leadership.

But neither new rights nor new laws will come about automatically. This means that in demanding them, we must also take a new view of the measure of our own responsibility.

We forget for some reason that there are probably no bodies of leadership and social welfare institutions where we do not have our own Komsomol representatives. We feel that it would be proper if at all levels in Komsomol, beginning with the Central Committee, it became regular practice for our representatives in Soviet and economic authorities and in public organizations to present regular reports in Komsomol organizations.

No one can become an authentic leader of young people who has not mastered the extremely complicated science of Komsomol work. But, let us be frank, can this be counted on when today we do not have up-to-date programs, nor textbooks on pedagogy and the psychology of working with young people under present-day conditions, nor are there even books which would present the history of our union not in colloquial fashion, but in a serious and scholarly manner?

Today a new moral-political atmosphere is taking shape in Komsomol, intolerance toward deficiencies and a desire to improve things are becoming established. There is more concreteness and seriousness, and I would say dynamism and critical attitudes in evaluating what has been done and in the activity of its leadership bodies. This gives us the right to approve the activity of the Central Komsomol Committee and to look to the future with optimism.

Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 16 Apr 87 p 9

[Text] In the context of the abrupt change of direction that is taking place in the entire life of the country and the acceleration of our socioeconomic development shortcomings and oversights in work with our young people in Tajikistan have been exposed in particular relief. The most typical of them are detachment from the life, needs, and interests of young men and women, the inability to seize accurately upon what is new, to respond promptly to events that take place, to find effective forms and methods of influencing young people. The race based on the number of initiatives and acts at the expense of consistency and persistence in achieving the goal, which was encouraged even by the Central Komsomol Committee, has made itself evident. A lack of intellectualism, apolitical attitude, an attachment to remnants of the feudal beys, and the consumerist psychology have become typical of a certain segment of Komsomol members and young people in the republic. Formalism and obsession with numerical data, like the yashmack, have been hiding from our eyes the negative things among young people that have been engendered by the contradiction between the ever growing needs of young people and the actual level of production.

In analyzing the events and phenomena which have recently occurred among young people and in Komsomol, we have come to the conclusion that in recent years Komsomol and young people have been excessively "kept in diapers" and "coddled" at the expense of trust and self-sufficiency. The immense innovative potential of young people is not as yet being put to use everywhere: people have been trying to substitute for the idea of the MZhK--an element of the new socialist way of life that is based on the initiative and self-sufficiency of young people, with simple participation of young people in housing construction; the demand for assigning cropland to apprentice production brigades and to allocate equipment to schoolchildren have been described by certain economic managers as a consumerist attitude; and the request that branch ministries and industrial enterprises allocate commercial production waste and substandard products to meet the needs of juvenile technical creativity have been hanging on promises.

Our time is a time of hope and achievement. Following the 27th CPSU Congress young sprouts of the new have come forth even in the life of TaSSR Komsomol. Following broad discussion among young people five comprehensive target programs were adopted concerning involvement of young people in social production, a greater contribution to scientific-technical progress, organization of military-patriotic indoctrination, solving the problem of the young family, and meaningful leisure.

What is the first step of restructuring? By contrast with practice in past years, when young students spent 2 or 3 months of the academic year picking cotton, last year the harvest that had been grown was picked without university students, without students from tekhnikums and vocational and technical schools, and without taking schoolchildren away from their classes. The economic benefit of increasing the volume of machine-picking of cotton and

also the renouncement of involving students in picking it amounted to about 8 million rubles.

Time is facing us with new tasks. Take, for example, the development of the regions of the North. One out of every three people sent from our republic comes back home in the 1st month. The reason lies not only in the poor quality of the volunteers, which we are accountable for, but also in the poor conditions for housing and consumer services, the outdated views of certain managers who see young people only as manpower. It is no accident that their vocabulary includes such terms as "barak," "balok," and "vremyanka" [types of primitive temporary housing used in the North] instead of "dwelling," "club," "school," and "kindergarten." The people in the Central Komsomol Committee know about this, but they go on playing "giveaway" with ministries and departments. We propose that the Central Komsomol Committee assign projects for a crash construction effort in the 5-year planning period, allow us ourselves, with clearance from the supervision of construction sites, to set the dates for sending detachments, and to put our relations with economic authorities on a contract basis.

We have also had quite a few failures in our effort at interethnic, patriotic, and atheistic indoctrination. Here, as nowhere else, we need a search and again a search, a comprehensive analysis of the situation. Take, for example, the problem of all members of the indigenous nationality mastering Russian. The criticism addressed to us by the Central Komsomol Committee, which has been resounding continuously, to the effect that we have not been sufficiently concerned with this matter, is basically warranted. Still an assertion of this kind is only partly true. Young people are greatly drawn to the language of Pushkin and Lenin, but the conditions for mastering it are inadequate. To be specific, there is an acute shortage of well-trained teachers. Today our schools have a shortage of more than 1,000 specialists. At one time as many as 200 graduates of pedagogic VUZ's and schools in the Russian Federation, the Ukraine, and Belorussia came to Tajikistan every year. They stopped coming in 1974. We believe it would be proper for USSR Gosplan and the USSR Ministry of Education to revive a practice which had proven itself. Over the last 5 years we in turn have sent 15,000 graduates of secondary schools to vocational and technical schools in RSFSR and the Ukraine. In the current 5-year planning period this figure will reach 30,000. There is probably a point in specific discussion within the Central Komsomol Committee of the issue of Komsomol's work with this category. After all, we are talking about training the young working class of our country.

A. Yagodin, USSR Minister of Higher and Secondary
Specialized Education

Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 16 Apr 87 p 9

[Text] The 27th party congress has aroused the entire country. Higher education, along with the entire country, has been going through a time of profound changes, which Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev spoke about at the January Plenum as a "turnabout and measures of revolutionary nature." Higher education now finds itself in a more fortunate position. More fortunate because the decrees of the Central Committee and government published in March

not only say what needs to be done, but also how it should be done, and they have provided well-thought-out organizational measures for the program of those actions.

Our main problem, our main task--is the quality of the specialist. An analysis of what is now taking place in the country shows that we have an acute need for good specialists. The quality of specialists cannot be improved at this point unless university students take an active position. That is why the slogan of student self-management, the appeal for student self-management, is a correct appeal. This is not a whim. This is the reaction of university students to the authoritarian regime of training and indoctrination in higher education, which has to be changed.

But what is this thing being referred to as student self-management? What sort of new body is this that would manage the higher educational institution? No, in this context I do not agree at all with the proposals expressed in the speech of Comrade Mironenko. There is no need to set up any independent new bodies for student management in VUZ's. Nor is there any need to set them up at the level of the entire country. Rights need to be granted to the organizations that already exist: the right of Komsomol and the university student trade union to participate authentically in managing the VUZ. Who is now deciding all the issues in the higher educational institution? The academic council. Are there representatives of Komsomol and the trade union in the academic council? There are. But at present they are not doing anything there. They are like well-behaved children there. They do not put any questions at all. What needs to be changed? We need to change the character of participation of university students in the work of the academic council. Increase the quota of student representatives to one-third or one-fourth so that there is a sizable group of people who really represent the students, not just officeholders, many of whom have lost contact and real connections with the body of students which delegated them to represent the interests of university students.

We feel that university student participation in academic councils with a full right to vote in election of the rector, deans, and faculty members, in defining the content of the curriculum, and in defining the bylaws of the higher educational institution must be brought about unfailingly. This is the mechanism which is already operating in a number of institutes and that needs to be carried over to the university schools as well. In addition, I agree that a number of issues need to be turned over entirely to the university students themselves.

The slogan of student self-management must in practice concern a number of matters which university students must take over entirely. But this is where the student dormitories which the students have taken control of are pointed to as bad examples. This is not a bad example, since the student dormitories are as a rule comfortable and good dormitories, but there is a lack of order in them. Take student dormitories under your strictest control, all the way to appointing commanding officers, all the cleaning personnel, and those who check identity cards. Establish your own order there. It is shameful when a faculty member reports for duty in the dormitory wearing a bandage. This is degrading for both sides--both for the faculty and also for the students.

Another question on which I would like to be understood. Do not allow self-management to be taken over by the elite of the trade union and Komsomol aktiv.

Self-management must unfailingly be based on the student group, on the students as such. Because detaching the Komsomol and trade union aktiv from the students is quite terrible. After all, that kind of situation exists even now. What sort of people are our Komsomol and trade union activists? These are our best university students. But look how many of them we have spoiled by early promotion to administrative and supervisory positions where they are separated from the masses, when they cease to understand what needs to be done for the essence of the cause and what needs to be done to carry out orders and instructions from above.

Recently I have often met with Komsomol activists and asked them: "Why should the Komsomol officeholder be fulltime?" They say: "A parttime Komsomol officeholder could not do our job." What sort of job is it that he could not perform--the job which is needed by the institute or the job which comes "from above" and is not necessary to the institute?

I feel that we need to go back to those days when the secretary of the bureau of the university school was always a university student and the secretary of the Komsomol Committee was as a rule a university student. Because when the secretary of the Komsomol Committee is a senior scientific associate or docent, he does not do this.

One more question which I would like to just touch upon: these are the student construction detachments. Comrades, restore the voluntary principle to student construction detachments.

The role of higher education in the transformation of society is not limited to the vocational training of the specialist.

A man's culture, his level of education, have an influence on the content of his needs. A great many evils in our country have occurred because needs which do not elevate man's spirit have prevailed. Prestigious needs which make a man stupid, which destroy his human dignity. The educated population is playing a particular role in the formation of new needs. And today Komsomol is in fact that educated population of the country on which our future depends.

V. Tsybukh, First Secretary of the UkSSR Central Komsomol Committee

Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 17 Apr 87 p 3

[Text] The practical activity of the Central Komsomol Committee, its new view expressed in the address, allows us to approve the work of the Central Committee as well as that of the Central Auditing Commission, which has also joined in the conclusions of the report.

Yet this is what still disturbs me and many others: For 2 years we have been talking energetically about acceleration and about the effectiveness of the Komsomol effort and at the same time we have been setting an extremely slow pace for its restructuring.

I am far from the thought of putting all the blame for the formal and bureaucratic obstructions exclusively on the Central Komsomol Committee. But if we are not to have tardy regrets ahead of us, if we are not to have to cover up cases of a bad situation in the bureau, in the Secretariat of the Central Committee, and in the Central Auditing Commission--we need reliable guarantees. They lie in openness, in democratization, in an open and abrupt change of direction of the main Komsomol staff toward real affairs, in breaking free of the paths of formalism, in breaking free of the intractability of the swollen staff which is patently in need of a substantial reduction. I think it would be right if every 1.5 years or 2 years we check the activity of the Central Committee and other Komsomol committees against the course that has been outlined, in the course, say, of a general Komsomol discussion. The need for this kind of check is felt in our republic Komsomol organization.

Patronage of the coal industry and ferrous metallurgy has made it possible to rejuvenate these branches in the republic appreciably. Sending mixed detachments of young specialists to economically feeble farms and building rural youth cooperatives and leisure centers have shown themselves to be constructive. There have been tangible results from performance of comprehensive programs for scientific-technical creativity and production of goods for young people. Young people themselves are attracted to socially significant things of this kind. But there are quite a few barriers in the way.

Unfortunately, economic managers are not always motivated to attract the young generation. They need housing, kindergartens, and other social welfare facilities. Even if cost-accounting brigades, sections, and links are created, preference is given to experienced craftsmen, and beginning workers are left "in the pool." There is a need for economic and moral regulators that would make it advantageous for the enterprise to work with young people. And Komsomol committees should have real opportunities to exert an influence. At present they have only an advisory voice, which more accurately translates to the voice of a "suppliant." I therefore support the proposal expressed in the report on strengthening the role of Komsomol in the USSR Law on the State Enterprise (Association).

The problem of introducing students to work remains an acute one. As in the past we are teaching entire generations of children not to work, and their process of maturing for work is being held back. And today for an adolescent to become employed, he must obtain seven certificates of permission and at the same time break through a deaf wall of indifference and caution. Students at both the secondary and postsecondary level are turned away from work. More than 1,200 pages of instructions on university student detachments have not prevented injuries and accidents by any means. All of this has been discussed in previous congresses of Komsomol. But the Central Komsomol Committee (the

secretaries are Comrades Shvetsova and Ordzhonikidze) has not managed to bring about radical changes. Now is the time to organize the work activity of students after the example of the university student movement jointly with Minpros and Gosprofobr and the trade unions.

A number of social welfare problems, the young family in particular, are also in need of solution. The time has come to put credit financing for the young family on a state basis. Or again the same MZhK. The idea has been approved by the 27th CPSU Congress, but how creakingly the matter is going forward. Judging by what people say, everyone seems to be "in favor," but when it comes to deeds.... For example, the Kiev Gorispolkom supported the initiative of young people and addressed nine union ministries, and the result was: four runaround responses, but Minpribor (Comrade Shkabardnya), the Ministry of Shipbuilding Industry (Comrade Belousov), the Communications Equipment Industry (Comrade Pervyshin), and others did not respond at all.

We have no reason to embellish the portrait of the contemporary man or on the other hand, as sometimes happens, to groundlessly besmirch the young generation. Indeed we have made many mistakes in bringing up the young generation, and we are continuing to do so. Even on matters of the greatest importance. Instead of a lively study of Leninism, we resort to scholasticism and the stringing together of quotes. Will we be able to correct the situation, to approach the formation of the political culture of youth in a new way, as is required by the draft of the CPSU Central Committee on the restructuring of the political and economic education system, or will we again push what is a creative matter into a bureaucratic framework? Also, the Central Committee departments, first and foremost the propaganda and agitation department, and the culture department (secretaries -- Comrades Paltsev, Fedosov), never stated their position. Clearly, it is not reflected in the speech.

Time does not wait. The 27th CPSU Congress and the January CPSU Central Committee Plenum set us toward revolutionary creativity, armed us with a program of action. And it is time for all of us, from the rank and file Komsomol member to the secretaries of the Komsomol Central Committee, to make the transition from intentions to implementation, so that we can affirm as soon as possible with complete truth that much has changed in our work since the 20th Komsomol Congress.

I. Marchuk, President of the USSR Academy of Sciences

Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 17 Apr 87 pp 4-5

[Text] Our country is going through an unusual period. A revolutionary spirit of transformations and renewal is opening up exceptional opportunities for every person's creativity. Life demands nonstandard new solutions, mobility, a readiness to welcome the most recent scientific and technical ideas and put them to dynamic use. Who do we expect them to come from if not from those who are today between 18 and 20? It is they who at the threshold of the new millennium will take over the helm of our economy, our science, and our culture.

One feels at the congress a profound understanding of the particular role of scientific-technical progress and of the present phase of development of our society, which is so important.

I can say that scientific collectives are more interested in young people now than they have ever been.

But if you look carefully at the pattern of life of scientific collectives, it becomes clearly evident that this is an area where we have not yet been making use of all our capabilities. The academic structure that existed until recently left few opportunities for young scientists to display themselves more completely and carry out their constructive ideas. There has been discussion of this in the General Assembly of the USSR Academy of Sciences. We have taken up the problems of restructuring! There is also the new status of the academy's institutes and branches, there is the conduct of scientific research along the priority lines.... And then there are the age limitations in filling positions of leadership.

In the general assembly we made a very important decision whereby the institutes of the Academy of Sciences, scientific institutions, and scientific collectives must renew themselves at a level of at least 5 percent every year. Reality has suggested the optimum structure of an institute of the academy. But in our opinion it must be based on permanent collectives with recognized scientific schools on the one hand and temporary collectives consisting mostly of young people and working on new problems that open up pathways in science. That is how we can achieve more quickly the realization of promising ideas and creation of new scientific schools based on them.

That is the way the collective of Sergey Pavlovich Korolev was formed when he was only 27 years old, and most of his associates were still younger. We are all quite aware what that temporary youth collective became. It would be proper if such collectives were formed on the basis of competitions of ideas, on the basis of a rivalry in science. And this process is already taking place.

Jointly with the Central Komsomol Committee we recently decided to draft a comprehensive program for working with young people of the USSR Academy of Sciences and possibly to include the academies of sciences of the union republics.

A few words about the main directions in development of basic science in our country.

Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev spoke very seriously about one of them today in his address, that is the problem of informatics and computerization. In his speech Viktor Mironenko used what is in my opinion an extremely important and correct comparison: In a few years computer illiteracy will be just the same as man's illiteracy is in the broad sense of this word.

I would like to say that our scientists have now been creating new types of lasers, so-called solid-state lasers. These solid-state lasers will now join the others in becoming widespread in all spheres of activity. This means

medicine and industry and cutting as well as the transmission of information....

I would also like to say that along with you we have experienced an immensely important event--this is the flight of our automatic station to Venus and Halley's comet.... We think that literally a new assault on peaceful space lies ahead of us.

Dear Comrades! Even this list of a few problems indicates what large tasks face Soviet science and how important it is for the entire people to take part in this. Science is opening up large opportunities for the display of individuality and for instilling character and realizing one's ideas. It is in the nature of young people to tackle great deeds, decisive changes, to conceptualize global and large-scale problems. The years of youth are the most creative period in a man's life. What he manages to do in that time always remains in him and makes up the foundation which he then uses throughout his life. There is a great deal that we have to do together.

I. Priyeditis, First Secretary of the LaSSR Central Komsomol Committee

Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 17 Apr 87 p 5

[Text] Only a few years ago the question "Is it easy to be young?" would have seemed naive and artificial. Today this question no longer arouses doubt as to its legitimacy. Still a great many disputes were aroused by the film of the same name made by the Latvian director Yu. Podniyek, winner of the LaSSR Komsomol Prize. But one thing is indisputable: We have to solve the problems which it raises.

The republic's Komsomol members expressed hope when they saw us off for the congress. Hope that the decisions of the congress will help young people to determine their own destiny, and that also means the destiny of restructuring. It is clear today that unless the primary organization has a greater role and more independence we will go back to the situation that took shape long ago, when the well-trodden path to the Komsomol raykom or gorkom relieved the primary organization of all responsibility and passed that responsibility on to the shoulders of a small staff. The passage of that responsibility blunted initiative; in other words, it took away from the primary organization its forward movement.

In our view the new version of the Komsomol bylaws provides the anticipated broadening of the rights of the primary organization, and that means that it will also make it possible to develop young people's initiative. Then the question is how we take advantage of that right. More than once we have seen that it is the attitude toward initiative that is the principal criterion for increasing the prestige of Komsomol. The main thing--whether young people will follow us, depends on how we are able to support, develop, and embody it in practical deeds. Life has been proving this repeatedly. The university student construction detachments, the public appeal for Komsomol crash-effort construction sites, which have won support, can undoubtedly be recorded among our assets. But because of the open exploitation of youthful enthusiasm

disguised behind high state interests, the work semester became a mandatory-voluntary drag. This has been discussed in the report and in the speeches.

Youth initiative needs a new attitude on the part of government authorities as well. The principle "Everything that has not been allowed is prohibited" should give way to the creative principle "If it is not prohibited, then it is possible." Take the youth housing complexes. The mere posing of this problem at the 27th party congress has speeded up its solution and has led to adoption of the long-awaited decrees. But many people sitting in this room know how many years it took to draft the documents on the scientific-technical creativity of young people.

So far state support has largely legitimated what has already proven itself and has not been designed for the future. Experience does not allow us to have every reason to say that the way always stands open to young people in our country. The republic has quite a few talented young people whose designs, inventions, and theater productions are not being realized. It is sufficient to recall the fate of the invention of Aleksandr Glushkov of Riga, which many people know about. So far neither the republic's Central Komsomol Committee nor the newspaper KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA have been able to help to organize production of his instrument--an electromechanical counter, though they began in 1985. Glushkov's work was also mentioned at the 11th Plenum of the Central Komsomol Committee, but even today the issue has not been settled. And yet there are hundreds and thousands like Glushkov.

The little experience which we have and the discussion among young people suggests the idea of setting up youth centers on a cost-accounting basis. What do they have to offer to Komsomol as a political organization? Above all the opportunity to influence their members through actual deeds and to reject what is getting out of date. The center could respond flexibly to the requirements of young people and the entire society. The range of the center's activity would be quite broad: from consumer services and the designing of youth fashions to a computer club, such as already exists in Riga. Today there are two Komsomol organizations, the rayon and the city, which in our republic are ready to create cost-accounting centers of this kind. But the notorious centralization does not allow us to get the centers in operation, although no small amount of Komsomol resources has been spent on official trips to Moscow.

At present all the energy goes for the endless clearances, and it is very difficult for us to explain to the young people why the thing has become stalled. They look upon us, and rightly so, as the most blatant demagogues. I think that we must deal with such matters at the local level--in the republic. We all need to stop waiting for decisions on every matter from superior organizations, now is the time to act vigorously and independently, making use of the rights that have been granted.

G. Akopyan, First Secretary of the ArSSR Central Komsomol Committee

Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 17 Apr 87 p 5

[Text] It is not possible to learn to solve our problems today with new methods, Vladimir Ilich Lenin taught, unless the experience of yesterday has opened our eyes to the incorrectness of the old methods.

So, we have become detached from young people, from the issues which concern it, we have been less concerned about young people than about being accountable to superior authorities. And however difficult or painful it might be, we have an obligation to acknowledge this and renounce it decisively, since it has dealt a telling blow to the prestige of Komsomol.

In performing the tasks of indoctrinating the new generation as patriots and internationalists, as worthy successors to the work of Lenin, we attribute particular importance to shaping the young generation's historical memory.

And the upcoming anniversary of the Great October is a wonderful opportunity for that.

The revolutionary history and interethnic friendship of the nationalities of our country constitute an inexhaustible store of spiritual and moral purity for the adolescent generation. Those who saw our delegation off when it departed for the 20th congress included Alla Fedorovna Pugacheva, who had come from Riga. In Yerevan she found not only someone who had been in the same regiment with her son Aleksey, who was killed in Afghanistan. Artyusha Turvandyanyan, an Armenian youth who holds the Order of Red Star and is an internationalist fighter, was able through the warmth of his heart and his filial concern to ease the Russian mother's grief and to become close and dear to her. He is here today in this room. Those are the ethical qualities that constitute an invaluable capital of the Soviet people.

How can we reconcile ourselves to the fact that in a society where the principal task is to instill high morality and bright aspirations in people, Komsomol members and even adolescents are charged with crimes. A consistent effort is being made on several levels in the republic to eradicate hooliganism, drunkenness, and other antisocial manifestations. The crime rate among minors is dropping steadily. But neither comparative percentages nor the specific trials are an evaluation of our effort. The 30th Congress of Armenia's Komsomol set the task: "Not a single offender in the republic who is a minor." I present to you, honored delegates, a proposal that this initiative be taken up throughout the union.

Restructuring of the economic mechanism has shown up our shortcomings in instilling work habits in young people still more markedly. Young people perceive the progressive new work forms with an active interest. They are wholly in favor of state acceptance. But if activity and the desire to work in the new way are not backed up with the appropriate level of technical support of production, this enthusiasm could die out. Komsomol members of the Yerevan Milling Machine Plant are asking: Is the state acceptance that has been introduced in their plant not a formality when they lack even the technological jigs and fixtures and monitoring and measuring devices? Yet this problem appears not to disturb Minstankoprom.

Openness has become a characteristic feature of our life, but it still has not affected the work of the commission for awarding Komsomol prizes. For the third time now the republic's Central Komsomol Committee and Ministry of Culture have nominated one and the same collective for its consideration. What happens then in the silence of the offices of the respected members of the commission one can only guess.

The speech delivered at our congress by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev forces us to reflect once again that in this period of change young people are becoming a principal protagonist in the process of restructuring.

A. Nasyrov, First Secretary of the UzSSR Central Komsomol Committee

Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 18 Apr 87 p 2

[Text] Just a few days ago many delegates, including myself, were anxious about the question of whether the 20th Komsomol Congress would mark a turning point in Komsomol's activity? Listening to the speech of Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and thinking over the report and the frank and honest speeches, you come to understand that we have every basis for optimism. A clear line is being plotted at the congress toward vigorous social action, creative independence on the part of Komsomol organizations, and a shattering of the outdated canons. The way has not been easy in our republic Komsomol organization, which experienced to the full the evils that have taken place in Uzbekistan and were condemned by the 27th CPSU Congress. We began the fight for recovery by restoring order in our own house

of Komsomol. We ridded Komsomol committees of young careerists, of inactive and unprincipled officials, many of whom had been promoted on the basis of kinship, the place they came from, or personal devotion. We are attracting into social production young men and women who are not working. We have vigorously tackled the formation of a generation of workers from young people of the local nationality: the first 5,000 young men and women have been sent to the country's vocational and technical schools.

But at present there are more slogans and assurances than concrete results. We loudly announce the fight for discipline, but young people account for two-thirds of the worktime lost. We talked about full mechanization of cotton-growing, but last year 60 percent of the harvest was picked by hand. We talked about the need for a thorough study of the Russian language, but half of our draftees serve only in construction chastis because of their poor knowledge of it. We call for people to be more democratic, but we ourselves are offended when Komsomol members do not elect those we recommend as their leaders. Probably this is in fact the main shortcoming in the stage of restructuring in Komsomol: the discrepancy between words and deeds.

These symptoms have also been manifested in the activity of the Central Komsomol Committee in the period covered by the report. The words in the report at the 19th Komsomol Congress about the need to work out a model contract for work associations, schools, and vocational and technical schools proved to be empty--it didn't actually happen. The departments of the Central Committee did not take their positions concerning the defense-athletic camps and the work and recreation camps. Only one out of every three measures was performed in the plan for practical actions approved by the 19th Plenum of the Central Committee, including that of creating a branch of the Higher Komsomol School in Tashkent. Even now the Central Committee is not consistent enough. A few months ago the Central Committee "fired" at the Komsomol committees 12 decrees all at once concerning organization of socialist competition among Komsomol-youth collectives.

Many Komsomol officials and activists openly expressed the fear that instructions, recommendations, and guidelines authored in the headquarters of the Central Committee would cancel out the new things that had been introduced into the bylaws. We support the new provision of the bylaws on approval of the most important documents by the plenum of the Central Committee and we in general propose enhancement of the leading role of the plenum relative to bureaus, secretariats, and the staff of the Central Komsomol Committee. We need an energetic search for ways of enhancing the role of members of elective bodies. As a member of the Central Committee I consider it wrong that even the most important decisions are taken without our participation. We recommend creating from among the members of the future Central Committee initiative groups for carrying out the most important youth programs.

In the context of restructuring we must enrich one another with new experience. This is also important in developing interethnic relations. We seem to have forgotten the Komsomol festival of the Central Asian republics, the working meetings and zonal seminars for exchange of experience. It is paradoxical, but a fact: In order to travel on official business from Andizhan to Osh in neighboring Kirghizia, which is a distance of 40 km, you

need permission and a telex from the Central Komsomol Committee. And do we have a thorough knowledge of the experience of the youth unions of the fraternal socialist countries? Every year dozens of our delegations are sent abroad, but so far there is no evident benefit from this.

During the visit of Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev to India and the Far East emphasis was put on the Soviet Union's desire to strengthen amical and good-neighborly relations with the Asian countries and to transform that large continent into a continent of peace. It would seem that Komsomol might also make its contribution to this cause. We propose holding in Tashkent international meetings and political dialogues of youth organizations of the Asian countries every 2 or 3 years.

In approving the activity of the Central Komsomol Committee for the period covered by the report we emphasize: deeds, they are the main thing which must stand at the foundation of the restructuring of the Komsomol effort.

I. Buzhenitsa, First Secretary of the MSSR Central Komsomol Committee

Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVA in Russian 18 Apr 87 p 2

[Text] The main thing we are aiming at today is to carry out restructuring in consciousness and in actions and to bring about real changes for the better. Our point of departure in this is the idea that the time for popularizing the decree has passed, that the masses will understand and evaluate only our practical effort, our practical success.

We have managed to move cost accounting from the shelves of the bookkeeping department into the life of Komsomol-youth collectives. Today two-thirds of them are working in the new way. The activity of the cost-accounting center for application of young people's developments, created in Kishinev, is gaining headway. Competition among related collectives on the principle of the workplace relay race has become solidly established in the republic. The branch of animal husbandry has truly become a branch for young people; over the last 2 years 2,400 Komsomol members have been sent in consolidated detachments alone.

Young men and women are making a larger contribution to development of the social and cultural sphere. But as yet there has been no satisfaction from what was done.

The dropoff in work effort and civic activity, the complacent indifference, and the attitude of dependency in a portion of young men and women are causing serious alarm. In our opinion such things are viable largely because of the discrepancy between the level of work habits instilled in the young generation and the tasks of acceleration.

The school reform, whose problems were discussed so harshly by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, has been called upon to make radical changes in the attitude toward work instilled in young people.

We fully support the proposal expressed in the report of the Central Komsomol Committee as to the need to create cost-accounting school cooperatives, production associations of apprentices in vocational and technical schools, which have given a good account of themselves in our republic as well.

Living as we do in a restless and largely contradictory world, we keenly feel that the ideological adversary is trying to instill in our young people a feeling of historical pessimism concerning the prospects of the changes which have been begun by the party. Without doubt these efforts are condemned to failure. But certain young people still show political shortsightedness, elements of ethnic limitation, boastfulness, and even outright nationalism. But quite often Komsomol committees have passed right by without attributing serious importance to this. We are all well aware of the possible consequences.

There has been a certain bias in Komsomol toward the showy and entertainment forms of interethnic indoctrination. There is no doubt that festivals, 10-day periods and weeks devoted to friendship, and topic evenings are necessary. But today it is far more important to purposefully shape the deep foundations of internationalism, an understanding that without intimate economic, social, and cultural cooperation among fraternal peoples the successful development of every region of the country is simply impossible. In this spirit we intend to continue to take an active part in building the most important projects in Siberia and the Nonchernozem Zone of RSFSR, to strengthen Komsomol monitoring of the prompt and quality delivery of equipment and agricultural products to all regions of the country, and to develop competition of related enterprises on the principle of the "workplace relay race."

The delegates at the recent 20th Congress of MSSR Komsomol also harshly criticized the Central Komsomol Committee for our having been carried away with talk about restructuring, for our talking in a new way in many respects, but continuing to work in the old way. The conclusions have been drawn: a well-considered program has been worked out for increasing the militance and independent activity of all units of the republic Komsomol organization. This will be further promoted by the constructive changes in the style of activity of the Central Komsomol Committee, which we approve and support.

The bureaus and departments of the Central Committee have shown quite a bit of creativity in preparing the present congress and the draft of amendments in the Komsomol Bylaws. KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA has become a kind of catalyst of the ideas and proposals of young people. Many proposals have been expressed from the speaker's platform of the congress on ways of improving the style of activity of Komsomol forums.

I would like to dwell on just one of the aspects of this problem--openness in the context of the broadening of democracy within the union. Komsomol committees today possess a powerful potential like the media of youth organizations. A legitimate question is whether we are making effective use of those media for those purposes? I think not. Often this is related to inept guidance of publications by Komsomol committees. An efficient system has not yet been worked out in this area. Nor is the Central Komsomol

Committee in a hurry to study the grains of experience from the local level. In our view there would be every justification to take up in a plenum of the Central Committee for the first time in many decades as a separate item the reports of two or three Komsomol committees along particular lines of effort.

A. Almann, First Secretary of the ESSR Central Komsomol Committee

Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 18 Apr 87 pp 2-3

[Text] Now is the very time to put the question: "How are we to direct the greater social involvement of young people into the streambed of political activity, that is, into solving specific problems?" First of all, we must stop looking at the shortcomings in the effort of our union from the standpoint of an outside observer. If we do not know the true causes of our shortcomings, we will not be able to build a new house, since it will lack a foundation. At the same time, one is sometimes left with the impression that we have begun more to talk about restructuring and to approve it than to learn restructuring, and, most important, to take part in it. Restructuring is not manna from heaven, but the result of hard fighting and strenuous work, the result of creativity, innovation, new discoveries, and bold daring. That is how Mikhail Sergeyevich set the task at the 20th Congress of ESSR Komsomol.

That section in the Komsomol Bylaws which talks about Komsomol's relations to government and public organizations is taking on particular importance.

We cannot look at young people as a separate group isolated from other spheres in the life of our society, nor can we look upon the problems it faces as the concern of Komsomol alone. Implementing youth policy and defining the place of Komsomol in the political system of Soviet society require new theoretical developments and a sound theoretical foundation. The council that has been created for coordination of scientific research on problems of young people associated with the Central Komsomol Committee cannot at the moment furnish practical advice to Komsomol officials, nor answer the question of what is typical and what is general concerning the object of its research. I propose that the USSR Academy of Sciences take over the job of coordinating the comprehensive research of youth policy.

Changes are taking place in the principles governing organization of the economy, the structure of management, yet the structure of Komsomol remains unchanged and rigid, which gives rise to a contradiction between the needs of real life and the capabilities of Komsomol. In order to change the structure at home in the republic's Central Committee we must travel that bureaucratic road from presentation of documents to the Central Komsomol Committee to the taking of a decision. This deprives us of flexibility and responsiveness and we will be expending our energies not on solving the problem, but on writing documents.

The diversity of the Komsomol effort is determined by the differences in the economic and social structure of regions, the dissimilarity of cultural and historical traditions. I propose that the Central Komsomol Committee make a critical analysis of the current practice in shaping the structure of the apparatus of Komsomol committees and grant republic central committees the

rights--within the limits of the wage fund--to independently settle matters related to the structure of the apparatus, beginning with primary organizations and ending with the staff of the Central Committee.

Under the new conditions we also need to work out a new approach to selecting and training Komsomol cadres and the aktiv. There is a need, in our view, to reevaluate the structure of the program for training Komsomol personnel and to set up an orderly system for continuous and successive replenishment and renewal of their knowledge and practical skills. The time has come to settle the issue of operating our own training center associated with the republic Central Komsomol Committee to train cadres and the aktiv. I call upon the Central Komsomol Committee to speed up settlement of the question of creating the training centers associated with the Komsomol central committees of the union republics so that there will be an opportunity to recruit for the training leading scientists in all specialties, specialists, and practitioners, to provide these centers the necessary plant and equipment and financial capabilities.

S. Kondybayev, First Secretary of the KaSSR Central Komsomol Committee

Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 18 Apr 87 p 3

[Text] Today we young people are becoming ever more convinced every day that it will be the destiny of our generation, the destiny of our times, to perform a truly magnificent deed, the "revolutionary renewal of socialist society," as M.S. Gorbachev put it in his speech at our congress.

Throughout all time young people have been and still are the most dynamic, the most honest, and the most susceptible segment of society. Yet how has it happened that this same youth has become unacceptable, incomprehensible, and disturbing for many people, including even Komsomol officials.

Words that contrast with deeds--there lies the cause of all the maladies. Several generations have been brought up on the principles of a life cut in two: one set of attributes for show, for the collective, and another for at home, for an immediate circle. Everyone understood that that could not go on for long, and when the 27th party congress said what every Soviet person was thinking, when unity of thoughts and deeds became a pledge not only for a confident future of our state, but also of its very existence, we can say without exaggeration that there are no people in our society more interested in restructuring and more ready for it than young people!

Many delegates naturally asked: How could the events which have shaken the entire country have taken place in Alma-Ata when in our republic we are experiencing an abrupt upturn affecting every one?

The recent plenum of the KaSSR CP Central Committee was thorough in pointing out the adverse trends in our republic's economy and social life. Reports were delivered from high places about great achievements, but in actuality the growth rates of production had dropped. The principle of social justice was declared ad infinitum, yet the facts gave evidence of the opposite.

There has been one disappointing campaign after another to step up the fight against various negative manifestations by precisely those who were intensively implanting ethnic protectionism, nepotism, regional favoritism, and malfeasance.

The ethical and moral orientations of a certain politically immature segment of young people have undergone a serious deformation. This was in fact taken advantage of by particular offenders, who made use of a poisonous weapon like nationalism.

We members of Komsomol came to understand many things following those events in December. But the main thing is that we felt ourselves to be an organization and a force on which a great deal will depend. We felt that when we had occasion to go to the "hotbeds": to the dormitories, the squares, and the streets, when we engaged in fierce polemics, and when we were triumphant. Ideological and political terms which are often vague to many people, often learned by rote, have in the recent past become our own, close to us, necessary to us as the air we breathe in our everyday Komsomol work.

So it has been a bitter lesson. But let it not be a lesson for us alone.

Not much time has passed since the congress of the republic's Komsomol. But the effort to carry out its decisions has even today and now been developed, as they say, on all fronts. We are clearly aware that this is only the beginning of a long and very difficult road on which we need the help and effective participation of the Central Komsomol Committee as well.

The labor rivalry of the young metallurgists of Magnitka in Kazakhstan with their counterparts at the West Siberian Metallurgical Combine, of the miners of Karaganda with those of Donbass, and of the shepherds of Dzhabul Oblast with those in the Kuban, which was once combative, has been lost or simply forgotten.

Nor has competition developed between Kazakhstan's enterprises and related enterprises of other republics on the principle of the worker relay race. The Central Komsomol Committee needs to revive good traditions, taking advantage for that purpose of socialist competition for a worthy celebration of the 70th Anniversary of the Great October.

We do not understand why for many years the construction projects in Kazakhstan have not been visited by young people from outside the republic. We feel that the Central Komsomol Committee should broaden interrepublic exchange of detachments of young people sent on the basis of a public appeal.

Another question that has arisen is this: Why do the finals of all-union festivals, competitions, and other cultural events traditionally end up in Moscow, rather than being held in the capitals of the union republics or at all-union Komsomol crash-effort construction projects after the pattern of the KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA days?

This dynamic and extremely crucial time does not give us the right to relax. We see it as our goal to create an atmosphere among young people of high

responsibility, moral purity, and devotion to the cause of the party. If we are really in favor of restructuring, then every one of us must carry out the revolution first of all in his own soul.

Let everyone incorporate the spirit of restructuring, the spirit of the Kremlin and Red Square into his own soul and heart.

G. Seleznev, Chief Editor of the Newspaper KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA

Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 18 Apr 87 p 3

[Text] Following the 27th party congress new departments and new series have been started in newspapers and magazines and in television and radio programming for young people. There has been a change in the tone of discourse, there is less didacticism and imperiousness in the language of journalists and the authors of our publications.

Not everything we have conceived has turned out well. There have been inaccuracies and errors. We feel that there has been a lack of consistency because of the abundance of plans, lines have been erased, the spirit of doing things in a crash effort has not been altogether eradicated, and at times the analytical spirit of serious research is smothered by the desire to make a report look good. But all journalists have developed a sense of political self-appraisal and greater responsibility for their activity, which is so necessary in the present stage. After all, we ourselves are restructuring on the run, we are learning a great deal, and we are experiencing our failures painfully.

The restructuring that has begun in Komsomol needs its leaders. There is a need for authentic Komsomol leaders who are not afraid to depart from the old traditions, to shatter the familiar stereotypes that have taken shape over the years--especially in the effort within the organization, where the influence of the "center" and of the sanctioned approaches is felt most acutely.

The report-election campaign that has taken place offers evidence that we do have such leaders. There are coming to be more and more of them. We have been reporting about many of them. But at the same time we see that the fear of parting company with the old psychology of "regardless how it turns out" is still strong in many Komsomol officials. Is it not because of this stubborn malady that Komsomol officials, who bragged about an experiment, exposed themselves to the risk of failing to be understood by the higher-level Komsomol authorities. Even now there are cases when bold initiative "from below" is perceived by higher authorities as an encroachment on centralism, as an appropriation of the right to define the forms and methods of work.

I am deeply convinced, and the discussion confirms it, that many of these problems referred to in the report of the Central Komsomol Committee can be resolved more quickly at the rayon or even microrayon level than at the nationwide level. Working at the grass roots--this is not a whim nor a slogan, probably it is the most difficult kind of work, and that is why it must be systematic and painstaking.

Unfortunately, distortions have been noted in this work of Komsomol. Some organizers see leisure as pure amusement, and accordingly put the question: "Should Komsomol only satisfy all the requests of young people, or should it give young people leadership?" Those who do not lead are forced to bring up the rear of events which have developed spontaneously and they see their role as the servitors of that spontaneity. And that is why such priority tasks for our sociopolitical organization as shaping the Marxist-Leninist world outlook, political principles, civic spirit, and Soviet patriotism have retreated into the background.

According to our observations, today's adolescents have turned away from foolishness and stupidity in smoky cellars. They are looking for a way out, a way to apply their knowledge and physical strength in action. The most popular television programs for young people now are those that are educational: "What? Where? When?" "Here Is Something You Can Do," KVN ["Wits and Comics Club"], and "TV Bridges." And what kind of engineering miracles are amateurs coming up with? Fashion in young people's circles is not turning toward the sickly prince, but toward the physically robust educated person who does not drink or smoke. These are not trends for us to note in passing, but whose development we should assist.

At the present time, in the period of active exploration, the press has an especially important role as an organizer. Knowing full well what must come about tomorrow in society and in Komsomol, we often do not know how to bring that tomorrow closer. That is, we know the goal, but we do not always see the way of getting to it.

The mass media have the capability of seeking out those ways and of setting up an experiment. The all-union competition to elect the director of "RAF," which was organized by our newspaper, did not take place in simple fashion, and sometimes it was even dramatic. A single manager was chosen, but today we have thousands of specific young organizers of production who comprise a putative pool of management personnel. Without going into the details, I can say that this initiative, if given further thought, can serve as a specific model for setting up a fundamentally new personnel mechanism that is in keeping with the spirit of the January Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee. That kind of pool, and also nationwide, interregional, and intersector competitions are capable of becoming the principal channel for intensive renewal of personnel. These ideas have been supported by the Bureau for Machinebuilding of the USSR Council of Ministers.

Unfortunately, it does not always happen that way. Sometimes a single person's taste or lack of principle can cast doubt on the serious conclusions of an article or of an entire effort. The period of time that has passed since the 19th Komsomol Congress has demonstrated convincingly that there is a real need to hold bureaus and perhaps even a plenum of the Central Komsomol Committee to discuss the role and place of the youth media in the process of Komsomol restructuring.

Editorial staffs, especially of local publications, no longer want to live in the old way, but there are cases when they are unable to live in the new way. The Central Komsomol Committee and Komsomol kraykoms and obkoms quite often do

not look to party and Leninist principles, but to their own home-grown traditions or to the personal view of secretaries, in their guidance of their own mass media. And this is holding back the development of the publications and hindering the effort. Nor can we be content with the present state of the department of journalism of the Higher Komsomol School associated with the Central Komsomol Committee. Support should be given to the idea of the school's rectorate that a full-fledged school of journalism be created.

S. Alekperov, First Secretary of the AzSSR Central Komsomol Committee

Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 18 Apr 87 p 3

[Text] At the republic's 32d Komsomol Congress, which was held recently, we thoroughly and comprehensively analyzed the work of the Komsomol committees, spoke frankly about their oversights and shortcomings, and defined specific ways of solving the problems that have come to a head. A particular place was given to matters related to instilling proper attitudes toward work in the adolescent generation. We feel that the roots of many evils that have been occurring among young people should be sought specifically in oversights that have been committed in this area.

Shortcomings in instilling proper attitudes toward work have been especially manifested in our petroleum industry. There has been a noticeable decline in the prestige of this occupation, and personnel turnover has risen. The sector has been slow to solve many problems related to social welfare and everyday life and to production technology. Komsomol committees and the mass media have not been doing enough to popularize the heroic occupation of the petroleum worker. But union ministries need to pay more attention to enhancing the prestige of the petroleum worker and to creating normal working and living conditions for him. One of the most important tasks we are endeavoring to perform is effective use of labor resources. This is dictated by the fact that in a number of the republics rayons there are still quite a few young people who have not become involved in socially useful work. These are mainly young women living in rural areas.

Komsomol committees are striving to see that young people participate actively in creating new jobs in rural areas, especially in the mountains, and in organizing work on two and three shifts.

The work has begun to set up youth cooperatives in the sphere of the crafts and trades and consumer services and to involve young men and women in self-employment.

The sending of young people to the vocational and technical schools of the RSFSR and the Ukraine, to the country's leading VUZ's, and to all-union crash-effort Komsomol construction projects is at the center of attention of Komsomol organizations.

We feel that creating in young people a conscious need to work wherever required by the interests of the cause and the people is our patriotic and international duty, and we are doing everything in our power to perform it with honor.

Instilling patriotism and internationalism also mean building the character of a brave defender of the fatherland, a soldier-internationalist. Soldiers who are performing their international duty in Afghanistan are surrounded by respect and concern in the republic. These boys are our gold reserves. They are active in helping to prepare young people to serve in the Armed Forces and to enroll in the country's military schools. The Republic School imeni Dzh. Nakhichevanskiy is also making a fruitful effort in this direction. As a rule this school's graduates are well-prepared for military service and have a fluent mastery of the Russian language.

But the effort is not being carried on in that manner everywhere by any means. In a number of the republic's rayons and cities military vocational guidance of young people and their preparation for military service are not at the level they should be. Some of the draftees go into the ranks of the Soviet Armed Forces insufficiently prepared. This is a great deficiency on our part, and we are taking steps to raise military and patriotic indoctrination of young people to a qualitatively new level.

The changes which have been made in the Komsomol Bylaws will have great importance in improving the entire Komsomol effort. The delegation of Azerbaijan Komsomol approves them. Komsomol members themselves must decide whom to enroll in Komsomol and whom to reject with good reason. The results of the experiment conducted in a number of the republic's Komsomol committees have convincingly confirmed the correctness of this position.

We have enthralling prospects before us. Everything now depends on each of us, on how we together, comrade delegates, the entire Komsomol aktiv in the country, begin to think and act and to carry out the decisions which have been made.

D. Margvelidze, First Secretary of the GSSR Central Komsomol Committee

Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 18 Apr 87 p 4

[Text] Today dynamic processes of renewal initiated by the party are shattering the unanimity of the slump. Our republic's Komsomol organizations have joined in the active search for the new and progressive. But the necessary quality of changes and the necessary pace of restructuring have not been successfully achieved everywhere.

We are striving today to turn Komsomol organizations toward a more specific and effective effort with all of young people, not just those with whom it is easier.

Some steps have already been taken. For example, a weekly exhibit of objects for sale done by young artists has been organized in one of the restored sections of old Tbilisi, and they have been given help in building their own club. But so far we have still been unable to create the conditions for many of our youth associations. I think that implementation of the decree on setting up youth centers in every rayon has its role to play here.

This is not the first year in the republic that a search has been conducted for effective forms of fighting drug addiction, which is by no means a regional problem, and we cannot play hide-and-seek with it. Having called for help from the sociologists, whose research was mentioned in the report, and having boldly recruited the press and television to take part in mobilizing public opinion, we began to actively discover narcotic pushers and users and to discuss the state of affairs in republicwide Komsomol television studios. But still we have not managed to make this effort a true offensive. In our view we need to tighten legislation against drug pushers throughout the country, and medical services must take more effective measures to help those who want treatment.

In promoting computerization, we set up the first computer clubs and equipped a mobile classroom on the "Georgian Komsomol Member" agitation campaign train. Our Komsomol officials have become accustomed to communicate with the republic Komsomol school by computer, and we are building a computer center in the Pioneer complex. We might expand this effort if we had more equipment. And we have been calling upon Ministers P.S. Pleshakov and M.S. Shkabardnya to support us in this effort and to help to organize the production of personal computers at the republic's enterprises.

The exploration of ways to intensify the inculcation of work habits in young people led at one time to the personal conservation account as a form of this effort. As a matter of fact, its use in practice sometimes resulted in far higher expenditures of efforts doing the paper work than the conservation and thrift amounted to.

We need to examine once again such forms and renounce those whose organization involves large expenditures of time and energy while the return is miserly. And the paper saved in this way can be turned over to Comrade Seleznev to increase the circulation of KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA.

Our internationalism is priceless property. Strengthening it is a task for every one of us. Those who live by their pen are expected to play a particular role here. Every year we join the republic's Writers' Union in holding Mayakovskiy Days, which are attended by young poets from all the union republics. We think that it would be good if this necessary and in our view important holiday for young internationalists, holiday devoted to multinational Soviet literature, were organized on a larger scale and if the Central Komsomol Committee included it in the calendar of its events.

Recently our region suffered a terrible disaster. The blows of the elements gone wild in an hour turned the fruits of the persistent work of generations to dust. Villages were wiped off the face of the earth for which people's blood had been shed and human sacrifices had been made--it is difficult to speak about this without emotion. But it is in these difficult and sometimes critical moments of the present winter that we once again felt all the strength of true internationalism. Thousands and thousands of Soviet people extended the hand of aid to us.

"Buck up, friend, we are with you; we have experienced the full horror of the disaster and at the same time have felt still more strongly the value of self-

sacrifice mutual fraternal rescue." Those from Chernobyl were among the first to write to us.

And today from this platform allow me on behalf of the young people and the inhabitants of our republic to thank all of you, dear comrades, to thank our party's Central Committee, to thank all the Soviet people for the support that has been shown. Fulsome thanks to you!

A. Matsaytis, First Secretary of the LiSSR Central Komsomol Committee

Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 18 Apr 87 p 4

[Text] An atmosphere of confidence is helping us to introduce new democratic principles in primary Komsomol organizations and Komsomol gorkoms and raykoms in connection with the election of our leaders. But we also have to say that the process of democratization in Komsomol also includes the questions of decentralization of management. It is indispensable that the Central Komsomol Committee grant greater independence to local Komsomol committees. If we turn over enrollment in Komsomol to the primary Komsomol organization, why then is it impossible to let the bureau of the union republic's Central Committee or the obkom to freely assign personnel at the local level according to the tasks to be solved? Unless it has a flexible management system, Komsomol cannot work effectively, and at present we are limited by indecisive attempts and experiments. Restructuring cannot be replaced by excessive caution. There is no reason to doubt that if there is enough confidence, there will also be enough responsibility.

The report of the Auditing Commission said that the Central Komsomol Committee has adopted about 4,000 decrees in 5 years. It is clear that their number needs to be reduced. At the same time concern needs to be shown about the content aspect of the decisions made. They must be better thought out and must take into account the specific nature of local work of Komsomol organizations. These decisions quite often have been drafted on the basis of the experience of one region, but they become binding on all. This has a very lamentable result--nonexecution of the decisions made and bureaucracy.

I feel that the Central Komsomol Committee must prepare more documents in the form of recommendations, that is, leave the freedom of choice as to the form of the effort, and when the need arises to issue a decree which will be carried out by all Komsomol organizations in the country, it should familiarize members of the Central Komsomol Committee with its draft and finally adopt it only in the light of their opinion. This approach is particularly necessary in drafting all the instructions of the Central Komsomol Committee.

The draft of the amendments to the Komsomol Bylaws emphasizes how important it is to defend the interests of young people. However, in our status as a sociopolitical organization, we are not at present able to start a fight with anyone who takes away their rights. It is indispensable that these rights of Komsomol be clearly defined in all the documents now to be adopted concerning young people. The Central Komsomol Committee must not lose sight of this.

Otherwise this function of Komsomol may remain just as limited as it has been in the past.

Young people are often accused of consumerism. It is time to acknowledge that this attitude toward young people also exists. I would like to give just one example concerning the public appeal for workers to go to crash-effort construction projects. In 1986 our shock detachment had to be relocated through the fault of the recipient organizations of the Yamburg Gas Condensate Deposit. And later, because there was no work to be done, the detachment had to be removed altogether. The bureau of the Central Komsomol Committee took up this matter. Ministries issued promises to the effect that the state of affairs would be corrected. But it must be stated with bitterness that even today, when shock detachments of volunteer Komsomol members are to be sent to the construction projects of our country from many republics, the detachment from Lithuania will not depart. Because on the last day, when it had already been mustered, a refusal arrived from the recipient organization "Yamaltransstroy."

Finally, the Central Komsomol Committee should not settle those matters which need to be settled by us Komsomol members at the local level. I think we should not replace one another, but each one should concern himself with his own affairs. We hope that thanks to our common efforts Komsomol will obtain the prestige which we are today so concerned about and take so much to heart.

Ya. Gundogdyev, First Secretary of the TuSSR Central
Komsomol Committee

Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 18 Apr 87 p 5

[Text] The decisions of the April (1985) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and of the party's 27th congress evoked a flurry of activity of young people during the current reports and election which to tell the truth even we did not anticipate. The congress of the republic's Komsomol served as a good lesson for everyone, including many people in the economy, showing that they had lagged behind both restructuring and also young people. But even we still have a great deal more to do to enhance the prestige of Komsomol. We have neglected the most important thing--the work with cadres, as was rightly stated in the report of the Central Komsomol Committee.

Now the situation is coming around. We are getting good help from the party authorities of the republic and the Central Komsomol Committee. But formalism, ready-made schemes, and overorganization are still evident. Today the central and other Komsomol committees of Turkmenistan face a full-blown problem of combating drug addiction, criminality, manifestations of religiosity, and the buying and selling of brides. And the fight is being waged--openly, in full view.

The employment of young people at socially useful work is a specific problem for our republic. It is sufficient to say that in Krasnovodsk Oblast alone more than 5,000 Komsomol members are not employed anywhere. We also have underemployment, but there are also objective reasons for that. In some rayons there is simply nowhere to work. Many young women are forced to sit at

home because of the shortage of kindergartens. We need to build new enterprises, but unfortunately the union ministries are timid about developing the resources of the region, which is rich both in people and also in raw materials.

A few words about the work style of the Central Komsomol Committee. It is clear to everyone that there should be no areas beyond criticism. But I wish to speak about zones in which there is no break in the criticism. You have to be born in such a zone, there is no choice. The hand of the responsible official automatically enters in the accusatory document an area from the "black list." This leads to absurdities. For instance, a decree of the Secretariat of the Central Komsomol Committee jointly with interested organizations dated 16 October 1985 speaks about the low level of work with young workers on the part of Komsomol committees in Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan, and in the decree part refers to the poor work...of Turkmenistan. It is obvious that what was at work here is precisely the force of the habitual stereotypical approach of the Central Komsomol Committee.

I would like to speak in particular about the articles in the Komsomol press. In striving for effects, and sometimes out of a desire to make its mark with a sensational topic, the reader is given a one-sided representation of the republic.

We have analyzed articles in KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA over the recent past: by and large we find either exotic aspects or the usual "reproach."

Practically all aspects of the life of the republic have been subjected to critical analysis. And yet no place was found for the workers--those who pick cotton, those who produce petroleum and gas under difficult conditions, those who herd the immense flocks of sheep in a 50-degree heat in the center of the desert.

We favor criticism and we do not decline responsibility for the unsolved problems. But instead of saying it is bad 100 times, perhaps it would be better for once to try to understand why it is bad and to help. After all, the Central Committee demands constructive criticism from everyone. So why does it itself take a different approach?

And one more thing. A line is being traced toward mediocrity on the part of all Komsomol organizations in the work style of the Central Komsomol Committee. Identically one and the same is expected of all of them. I can report to the officials of the department for rural young people of the Central Komsomol Committee, which year after year calls upon us for information about sending young people into rural areas, that we have another problem: how to get the young people out of rural areas.

Here is a recommendation for the defense ministry. While it has been criticizing Komsomol for poor work in the military and patriotic indoctrination of young people, itself it has not been in any hurry to take specific steps to correct the situation. I would make a request to Comrade Sokolov: First, to settle the question of allocating military equipment which has been written off to schools and to clubs by place of residence. Second,

athletic complexes of chasti need to be made accessible to tomorrow's soldiers. Third, military-patriotic associations in the appropriate fields need to be created in association with every military chast. The Ministry of Defense must itself undertake something realistic to improve the training of predraftees.

T. Tabyldiyev, First Secretary of the KiSSR Central Komsomol Committee

Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 18 Apr 87 p 5

[Text] I would like to begin my speech with a folk proverb. It says that old clothes do not keep you warm. As we see it, the old clothing stands for everything that has become frozen and has been hindering our forward movement. And as a matter of fact restructuring in Komsomol has today been most seriously held back by the canonization of forms of Komsomol work well known to everyone.

The 22d Congress of KiSSR Komsomol supported the draft of proposed amendments in the Komsomol Bylaws, noting particularly its orientation toward broader rights of lower levels of Komsomol and its basic unit--primary Komsomol organizations, and toward a further deepening of internal democracy. We consider it legitimate for the most important decisions, those which affect the basic interests of Komsomol, to be discussed in future throughout the organization.

The statutes on the MZhK, on amateur associations, on the nationwide system of scientific-technical creativity of young people would be more complete, accessible and closer to young people if we organized discussion of these unquestionably important documents in the country's Komsomol organizations before they were adopted in the bureau of the central Komsomol organization. We submit that this approach should become standard practice in our work and it ought to be reflected in the Komsomol Bylaws.

In general the democratization of relations within Komsomol should be taken more decisively onto the plane of practical performance of tasks. In rightly demanding restructuring on the part of Komsomol committees, the Central Komsomol Committee must, we feel, restructure its own activity more vigorously. Too often the Central Komsomol Committee takes over functions not proper to it in organizing various actions which are local or regional in nature and which distract departments of the Central Committee from solving the really major problems that have come to a head.

In enhancing the effectiveness of centralized leadership of all units of Komsomol and in defining the basic directions of its activity, it should at the same time substantially broaden the rights of the Komsomol central committees in the union republics and Komsomol kraykoms and obkoms, especially on those matters which have to do with day-to-day activity.

Of course, this means doing away with numerous instructions and regulations which we have accumulated over long years, but the benefit will be unquestionable.

One more thing, comrades. Man's relations to the environment. We young people, the Komsomol members of the eighties, must be the first to sound the general alarm when there are cases of an indifferent attitude toward nature and its resources or theft and criminality. We have good examples for imitation. There is the termination of diversion of a part of the discharge of the Siberian rivers to Central Asia and Kazakhstan; this is a nationwide fight for the purity of Lake Baykal and many other things.

We know that in many corners of our country, including Kirghizia, there are "diversions" and "Baykals." Take only the grave condition of the republic's natural feeding ground, the problems of unique Lake Issyk-Kul, or the questions of chemical pollution of soil and water.

Comrades! Every day the republic's young men and women are preoccupied with the renewal and with development of democratic principles of activity of Komsomol organizations, with the active participation of young people in managing the affairs of the state, economic affairs, and cultural affairs.

The decisions of the 20th congress and the tasks set before Komsomol in the speech of Comrade M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, have been filling this work with a new content and making it precious and comprehensible to every young person.

Niku Ceausescu, First Secretary of the Central Committee
of the Communist Youth League of Romania

Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 18 Apr 87 p 7

[Text] Dear Comrades and Friends!

First I would like to pass on to all the participants in the 22d Komsomol Congress and Soviet youth as a whole warm, friendly, and revolutionary greetings on behalf of the Union of Communist Youth and the entire young generation of Socialist Romania.

It is very pleasant for me at this most important moment in the life and activity of the youth of the Soviet Union to recall once again the relationships of friendship and close cooperation which are continuing to develop between the youth of Romania and that of the Soviet Union, between the Union of Communist Youth and Komsomol, in the spirit of traditional relations that have come about between our parties and countries on the basis of negotiations and understanding reached at the highest level.

The youth of Socialist Romania has been following with lively interest and has been sincerely gladdened by the great achievements of the peoples of the Soviet Union in the effort to successfully build a communist society in your country.

Of course, in all of these great deeds it is possible to clearly trace the specific contribution of the young generation to the revolutionary organization of Komsomol.

At present it is mobilizing on a broad scale the entire potential of young people to join all the workers of your country in performing the tasks outlined by the 27th CPSU Congress. That is why, respected friends, I would like once again on this occasion to sincerely congratulate Soviet young people on the results achieved, and at the same time to pass on our hope that they will achieve new and still greater victories in carrying out the most important tasks which have been set by the party.

Respected Comrades! Romanian young people, under the guidance of the party, are now taking part with enthusiasm and joining the entire people in the large-scale process of building a fully developed socialist society and of moving toward communism.

In responding to the high trust that has been shown, the young generation of the homeland and its organizations of the Union of Communist Youth have been proving their responsibility and patriotic revolutionary self-sacrifice with specific deeds. They have been taking an active part along with the entire people under the party's guidance in building the socialist present and communist future of Romania.

Respected Comrades!

Romanian young people know that a strong peace is necessary in order to direct one's creative efforts toward creating a new society. The young people of the homeland have unanimously supported the decision of Romania which our nation adopted in a nationwide referendum in November 1986--unilateral 5-percent reduction of the size of its armed forces and military expenditures.

In consistently advocating a solution independent from other matters to the problem of medium-range missiles on our continent, we recently welcomed the Soviet proposals, feeling that real opportunities for achieving conclusion of agreements quite soon to eliminate medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe exist on the basis of those proposals and also on the basis of the proposals advanced by the United States of America.

At the same time we have been supporting the recent proposals for the Warsaw Pact countries and NATO countries to adopt a 1-2-year moratorium on the growth of military expenditures on the basis of reciprocity.

Respected Comrades! Friends! Within the framework of the international activity of the Union of Communist Youth we have been paying great attention to the multifaceted development of relations of friendship and cooperation with Soviet youth and with its revolutionary organization Komsomol.

Once again I would like to emphasize from this rostrum that cooperation between our organizations has been getting broader and deeper on the basis of active development of effective forms of interaction and exchange of experience which promote better familiarization with the ideas and concerns felt at the present time by the young people of the two countries.

We will continue in the future to favor development of friendly relations between the Union of Communist Youth of Romania and Komsomol, between Romanian

and Soviet young people on the basis of relations of friendship and fruitful cooperation between our parties, peoples, and countries.

In conclusion, dear friends, I would like once again to wish you and all Soviet young people great new success in carrying out the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and performing the tasks set for the young generation and its revolutionary organization in building communism in your country.

7045

CSO: 1800/516

KOMSOMOL CONGRESS RESOLUTION ON CENTRAL AUDITING COMMISSION

Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 19 Apr 87 p 4

[Resolution of the 20th Komsomol Congress on Changes in the Komsomol Charter]

[Text] 1. The Komsomol Central Auditing Commission is elected by the Komsomol Congress for the same term and by the same procedures as are established for the election of the Komsomol Central Committee.

The quantitative composition of the TsRK [Central Auditing Commission] is determined by the Komsomol Congress.

2. The Komsomol Central Auditing Commission is guided in its work by the decisions of the CPSU and the Komsomol, by the existing legislation, and by the present Regulations.

3. The Komsomol Central Auditing Commission facilitates increasing the operational efficiency of the central Komsomol organs, as well as the strengthening of discipline, responsibility, high principles, and exacting standards in them.

4. The Komsomol Central Auditing Commission audits the observance of the established procedure for seeing matters through to conclusion, the work on examining letters, declarations, complaints, proposals, and critical remarks by Komsomol members and other youths in the central Komsomol organs, the correctness of the Komsomol budget performance, including the payment, receipt, and accounting of Komsomol members' dues, as well as the financial-management activity of enterprises, organizations, and institutions of the Komsomol Central Committee, thereby achieving objectivity, openness, and efficiency.

5. The Komsomol Central Auditing Commission renders methodological aid to the Komsomol auditing commissions of the Union republics, as well as the kray and oblast Komsomol organizations.

6. Within the limits of its own functions, the Komsomol Central Auditing Commission presents conclusions regarding the activities of the Komsomol central organs to the Komsomol Congress and reports to the latter about its own work.

7. The sessions of the Komsomol Central Auditing Commission are conducted at least once every six months.

In order to provide day-to-day direction for the work of the Komsomol TsRK, a buro is elected, along with a chairman and a deputy chairman, and a chief secretary of the Commission is approved. The TsRK chairman and the chief secretary are Komsomol officials freed from their duties.

8. Questions regarding the withdrawal of members of the Komsomol Central Auditing Commission are decided at its sessions according to the procedure provided for by the Komsomol Charter.

9. Members of the Komsomol Central Auditing Commission take part in the work of the Komsomol Central Committee plenums with the right of a consultative vote.

The chairman of the Komsomol TsRK and, in his absence, the deputy chairman or chief secretary, take part in the work of the Komsomol Central Committee Buro and Secretariat.

10. The Komsomol Central Auditing Commission carries out its practical activity by the efforts of the TsRK members and with the aid of a small apparatus, maintained by means of the Komsomol budget. The apparatus employees, upon the agreement of the Komsomol Central Committee Secretariat, are approved by a decision of the TsRK Buro. In case of necessity, the Commission also calls upon appropriate specialists to conduct audits on the Komsomol employees.

11. In carrying out their own work, the members of the Komsomol TsRK utilize all documents having a bearing on its activities, both those received directly by the TsRK as well as those at the disposal of the Komsomol central organs.

12. According to the results of audits and checkups, the Komsomol Central Auditing Commission draws up appropriate documents. The audited organs, enterprises, organizations, and institutions examine them and report to the TsRK on the implementation of the notes and proposals contained within these documents.

The TsRK periodically makes reports on the results of its audits and checkups at the Komsomol Central Committee plenums.

TsRK members make regular reports in the Komsomol organizations on the performance of the duties with which they have been entrusted.

2384

CSO: 1800/604

SUPREME COURT PLENUM DISCUSSES PEOPLE'S ASSESSORS, HOUSING

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Apr 87 p 6

[Unattributed report: "USSR Supreme Court Plenum"]

[Text] The latest plenum of the USSR Supreme Court was held under the chairmanship of V.I. Terebilov.

A report by USSR Supreme Court member M.A. Marov examined the problem of observing the legislation which regulates the participation of people's assessors in the dispensation of justice.

The plenum emphasized that in a situation where the party and the state are adopting decisive measures for further strengthening legality and implementing the principle of socialist justice, there has been a dramatic growth in the importance of the institution of the people's assessors. The joint activity of a professional judge, with his excellent knowledge of the laws and judicial practice, and judges in the persons of people's assessors, with their great experience of work and life itself, is one of the important guarantees of the adoption of just and legal judicial decisions.

Sharp criticism was leveled at instances of underevaluation by certain judges of the role played by people's assessors and departures from the procedure of their participation in administering justice. In particular, the plenum pointed out that even before a court session begins, the presiding judge in the case is obliged to create all the necessary conditions so that each people's assessor can familiarize himself with the case in detail, to explain their rights and duty to actively use their authority in order to decide the case objectively and legally.

Particular attention was drawn to the fact that the presiding judge's exercise of the powers granted him by the law with regard to directing the court session under no circumstances can nor should involve any limitation of the people's assessors' rights. All questions connected with establishing the circumstances of the case, the personality of the accused, the causes and conditions which facilitated the violation of the law or the origin of the civil-law dispute must be explained jointly to the entire body of the court. In this connection, there was an objective and specific discussion of the publication in the newspapers IZVESTIYA, PRAVDA, TRUD, SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA,

SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA, LITERATURNAYA GAZETA regarding concrete instances of infringements on people's assessors' rights. A resolution by the plenum took into account a number of correct, constructive suggestions made by the public and the mass news media.

If in the conference-room a people's assessor does not agree with the opinion of the other judges, then after signing the adopted majority, he can and is morally obligated to utilize the right granted him by the law to set forth in written form a special opinion and propose his own solution to the case in dispute.

The plenum recognized that each special opinion must be the object of a meticulous study by the next higher court; the presiding judge of the higher court is obligated to inform the people's assessor regarding the decision taken on this opinion. It was recommended that the judges inform the people's assessors concerning the reversal or change of any court decision in which they have taken part.

The courts' attention was drawn to the fact that failure to comply with the law on the people's commissioners participating in implementing justice is a significant violation which, as a rule, entails the repealing of the courts' verdicts.

The plenum condemned the existing instances of hindering the attendance of people's assessors in order to perform their duties, and it obligated the courts in all such cases to pose the question of charging those officials guilty of this with responsibility for it. In particular, it was noted that during the last three years in Orenburg Oblast alone 78 instances were registered of opposition to the attendance of people's assessors in court by managers of enterprises, institutions, and organizations who gave as the reason for this the indispensability of the employee in question and other trumped-up excuses.

It was explained that the powers of people's assessors begin from the day of their selection and end with the expiration of this term. However, this term is extended in case it is necessary to finish a trial that was begun with their participation even prior to the expiration of the term of their activity.

The plenum drew the attention of the presiding judge to the need for strictly carrying out the law that each people's assessor during the course of his term of authority has to participate in dispensing justice. Presiding judges bear personal responsibility for strictly observing this requirement.

The plenum explained that a change in a people's assessor's place of employment, residence, etc. does not entail any loss of his powers and does not hinder his dispensation of justice until the expiration of his term of office.

A report by V.I. Zamyatin, chairman of the USSR Supreme Court Civil Cases Collegium, examined the question of the courts' practice of applying housing legislation.

Study of the courts' practical work has shown that housing cases coming to the courts (concerning the division and exchange of living space, breaking leases for renting housing space, etc.) are constantly increasing. In 1986 their number exceeded 250,000.

After noting that substantial shortcomings and omissions occur in the activity of courts trying such cases, the plenum indicated that the universal safeguarding of the right, guaranteed by the USSR Constitution, of citizens to housing and strengthening legality in the sphere of housing relations were impossible without the courts' correct application of the legislation in resolving housing disputes. Well-targeted juridical activity should facilitate the most rational utilization of housing, cutting short violations of citizens' housing rights, protecting the interests of enterprises, institutions, and organizations, as well as observing the regulations of socialist communal housing.

At the plenum session it was noted that the quality of resolving housing cases is still too low in a number of courts. For example, in the Azerbaijan, Moldavian, and Uzbek SSR's two or three times more judicial decisions are reversed or changed on appeal than is true for the USSR as an average.

Without the necessary reaction on the part of the courts, instances of the illegal granting of housing and the squandering of living space remain.

Serious concern was also expressed in connection with the more frequent instances of damage to housing spaces and their use for the wrong purpose. The number of lawsuits and citizens charged with this is extremely small, since the ispolkoms of the local Soviets of People's Deputies, enterprises, institutions, and organizations under whose jurisdiction apartment houses come, as well as the procurators, do not always take measures to charge such persons with the property responsibility and other responsibilities involved. Though they establish such facts in trying specific cases, the courts have not reacted to them as they should.

The plenum provided the courts with guideline explanations with regard to unclear questions arising in the practice of applying housing legislation.

According to the law, residential space in apartment houses belonging to departmental housing stocks is granted in line with the joint administrative decisions of enterprises, institutions, organizations, and trade-union committees, as approved by the ispolkoms of the local Soviet of People's Deputies. In this case a refusal to issue an order cannot be disputed in a court procedure. But if the residential space is granted from the public housing stocks (in houses belonging to kolkhozes, other cooperatives, and public organizations), as well as in departmental houses built at the expense of an enterprise's own funds, an ispolkom's refusal to issue an order can be disputed in court. This explanation is used by the plenum to defend the citizen's right to be granted housing space and the independence of kolkhozes, enterprises, institutions, and organizations in deciding social problems. At the same time the plenum explained that the demands of citizens needing improvement in their housing conditions and to be granted housing space are not under the court's jurisdiction.

In connection with existing instances of matters arising over recognition of an order for housing space being invalid due to violations of the procedure for granting housing space (for example, without the participation of the trade-union committee), the plenum explained that if such violations can be eliminated prior to or during the judicial investigation, the court should honor this circumstance and rightfully make it the basis for denying the suit.

In resolving disputes concerning the recognition of an order as invalid and eviction on the grounds that the right to grant the space belonged to a different person, the plenum pointed out to the courts that, in trying such cases upon the demands of citizens on the declarations of a procurator, they are obliged to involve in the capacity of correspondents a representative of the ispolkom of the local Soviet or organization, which, if the suit is successful, could be obliged to provide the evicted persons with other housing space. The latter must correspond in size and layout to that which was granted by the original order.

In accordance with the housing codes of the Union republics, a person renting housing space has the right to settle in it his spouse, children, parents, other relatives, non-able-bodied dependents, and other persons, having previously obtained the consent of all the members of his family who are of age. Such settlement assumes the observance of the existing statutes as to registration. However, the court may recognize the refusal of registration as groundless and grant a suit for settlement in housing space.

In order to ensure the correct and timely resolution of housing cases, the plenum obliged the court to pay particular attention to properly preparing cases for judicial investigation. Without being limited by the materials already presented, the courts themselves must be active in seeking out the necessary materials for the purpose of providing a multi-faceted, full, and objective explanation of the genuine circumstances of the case, as well as the rights and obligations of the parties involved.

Having established in trying the case violations of the housing legislation, in particular, instances of the illegal granting of housing, violations of the housing rights of other persons, improper performance of the obligations stemming from the lease of the housing space, the courts must discuss the question of passing individual sentences and pose the question of punishing the guilty parties.

The plenum also provided explanations on the procedure for evicting persons from privately built homes subject to wear and tear; from areas not falling within the housing stocks; on the procedure for transferring another person to use space in an apartment which has been freed up, and a number of other questions.

USSR Supreme Court member P. Ya. Trubnikov's report examined the question of strictly observing the procedural legislation when dispensing justice in civil cases.

In its adopted resolution the plenum noted that civil court trials show quite frequent instances of poor preparation of cases and judicial investigations,

numerous continuances in hearing them, and, as a result of this, red tape in essentially solving them. For example, the case involving the suit of A.N. Razmadze brought against M.A. Razmadze and I.B. Meskhi concerning the division of housing space took more than three years to go through the courts of the Georgian SSR. There are analogous shortcomings in the courts of the Tajik, Kazakh, and certain other Union republics.

The plenum emphasized that every civil case should be tried within the time period established by law, at a high professional level, while every decision made by the court must ensure protection of the labor, housing, property, and other rights and legal safeguards for the interests of citizens and organizations. The courts must decisively cut short any attempts at interference in the resolution of specific cases, no matter where such efforts may originate. In many courts, however, these legal requirements are not being met satisfactorily.

The revelation during civil cases of instances of mismanagement, bribery, violations of state, contractual, and plan discipline in economic activity, the output of poor-quality products, padding, distortions in accounts and plan fulfillments, red tape in the introduction of inventions and patent applications, tolerance of slackers, drunkenness at work, and other facts disorganizing production, established instances of deriving unearned income, and violation of citizens' rights ought to entail the bringing of criminal charges against the accused.

The plenum demanded that courts put a decisive stop to underestimating civil cases as something secondary, and view the strictest observance of the principles of equal rights between the two sides in a trial, along with openness, collegiality, and the other democratic principles of socialist justice, as the necessary prerequisites for ascertaining the truth in each case.

The attention of courts was drawn to the fact that when statements are received regarding cases whose trial and resolution are of enhanced public importance, the court is obliged to report on them to public organizations and labor collectives which are interested in the outcome of the case, to explain their rights and obligations, as well as the procedure followed in selecting persons to participate in the judicial investigation.

The plenum examined the objections made by the chairman of the USSR Supreme Court and the procurator general of the USSR with regard to court cases.

Taking part in the plenum's work were N.A. Bazhenov, the acting procurator general of the USSR and B.V. Kravtsov, the USSR's minister of justice.

2384

CSO: 1800/553

BSSR BURO REVIEWS SOCIAL-ECONOMIC PROGRESS

Minsk SOVETSKAYA BELORUSSIYA in Russian 17 Apr 87 p 1

[Unattributed report: "In the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee Buro"]

[Text] At its latest session, held on 15 April, the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee Buro approved the plan of basic organizational-political measures with regard to preparing for the 70th Anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. Party, trade-union, and Komsomol organizations, as well as soviet and economic organs, are faced with the task during the course of the preparatory period of concentrating the efforts of this republic's communists and non-party members, youths, and all working people on implementing the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress, the tasks assigned by the 12th Five-Year Plan, and the plans for social and economic development for the year 1987.

Emphasis was placed on the importance of intensifying political and organizational work, ensuring the successful performance by every working collective of its socialist pledges undertaken in honor of the noteworthy date, of not allowing in this connection formalism, over-organization, "reportomania," or the "ornamentaion" of the true state of affairs. Particular attention was paid to the need for thoroughly explaining to the public the CPSU Central Committee Resolution entitled "On Preparing for the 70th Anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution," and the Appeal of the CPSU Central Committee to the Soviet People, for waging propaganda from the standpoint of truth and realism, for boldly revealing shortcomings, and for rallying working people to struggle with determination for their elimination.

The Belorussian CPSU Central Committee Buro discussed the work of this republic's national economy during the first quarter of 1987. In a resolution adopted on this question it notes that, in comparison with the corresponding period of last year, the volume of production in the republic's industry increased by 5.6 percent and labor productivity rose by 5.4 percent, which is higher than the socialist pledges that were made. Purchases of livestock and poultry increased by 9 percent, while those of milk went up by 19 percent.

Not everywhere, however, have the necessary measures yet been taken to eliminate the lag that was permitted to occur in January of the current year.

Failing to fulfill their plans for production output were 78 industrial enterprises, for labor productivity--103, and for contractual obligations--73. Certain kolkhozes and sovkhozes reduced the amounts of livestock sold and milk yields. Serious shortcomings were allowed to occur in the work of ensuring the fulfillment of plans for the first quarter by the BSSR Ministry of Light Industry, BSSR Ministry of Construction, BSSR Ministry of Trade, the Belorussian Cooperative Union, the Belorussian Railroad Administration, the BSSR Ministry of Consumer Services, as well as the Brest, Vitebsk, Grodno, Minsk, and Mogilev Oblispolkoms.

The Belorussian CPSU Central Committee Buro assigned to the BSSR Council of Ministers, ministries and departments, party obkoms and oblispolkoms the task of making a detailed analysis of the reasons for the disruptions allowed, of carrying out measures to ensure smoothness of production, the effective use of production capacities and material resources, the unconditional fulfillment of assignments with regard to turning out products in the established assortment and rendering all kinds of services, as well as upgrading the quality of the items offered to the consumers.

A Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee and BSSR Council of Ministers resolution was adopted on improving the work done by the organs of this republic's State Board of Arbitration and enhancing their role in strengthening legality and contractual discipline in the national economy. It was noted that these organs are not yet fully utilizing the rights granted to them, are not manifesting the necessary initiative and persistence in the matter of improving economic relations between enterprises and organizations, their fulfillment of their contractual obligations, the struggle against mismanagement and non-production losses in production.

Measures were outlined for restructuring the work done by the organs of the State Board of Arbitration in this republic, expanding their full powers in the matter of defending the interests of enterprises and organizations under the conditions of making the transition to full cost accounting and self-financing, and on further strengthening party guidance in the activity of these organs.

The session summarized the results of this republic's socialist competition on environmental protection and the optimal use of natural resources in 1986. The winners were: Grodno Oblast, the town of Molodechno, and Dokshitskiy Rayon.

The Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee Buro examined certain other questions concerning organizational-party and ideological work, as well as the socioeconomic and cultural life of this republic.

2384

CSO: 1800/615

GRISHKYAVICHUS SPEAKS AT SEMINAR FOR PARTY OFFICIALS

Vilnius SOVETSKAYA LITVA in Russian 10 Apr 87 pp 1-2

[Unattributed report on speech by P.P. Grishkyavichus, first secretary of the Lithuanian CP Central Committee, at the Seminar of Lithuanian CP Gorkom and Raykom First Secretaries held 8 April 1987: "Restructuring Is the Top-Priority Task of Party Organizations"]

[Text] On 8 April the Lithuanian CP Central Committee held a seminar for the first secretaries of party gorkoms and raykoms, devoted to problems of restructuring party work, taking into account the demands of the January (1987) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee. On the eve of the seminar groups of party committee first secretaries toured the Belorussian, Latvian, and Estonian republics, where they familiarized themselves with their neighbors' experience in restructuring. The seminar summed up accumulated positive experience, focused attention on weak spots, and outlined basic directions for further restructuring party work.

P. P. Grishkyavichus, first secretary of the Lithuanian CP Central Committee delivered the following speech at the seminar.

Esteemed Comrades!

After the April (1985) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, the 27th party congress unleashed in the country broad-based and historically unprecedented work, unequalled in the innovation and depth of its changes for the socialist society. During this period the party's efforts achieved a very important political and moral goal: an atmosphere was created wherein the idea of restructuring and strategically accelerating socioeconomic development became the determining, main thrust for deep changes in all sectors of building socialism.

We've entered a stage directly linked with implementing the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee January Plenum. And it's very important to deeply recognize and understand the great significance of this stage. It's a special period on which will largely depend the successes of socioeconomic development and the further course of restructuring.

Our seminar's goal also consists in aiding the party gorkom and raykom first secretaries to understand the gist of restructuring more deeply and precisely, acquaint them with the neighboring republics' experience, exchange their own, and build upon actively implementing the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee January Plenum.

The party Central Committee also draws our attention to the need for correctly setting the pace of restructuring. Unjustifiably running ahead and haste are inappropriate and inadmissible here. At the same time, slowness and indecisiveness are ruinous. It seems obvious that the latter problem is most urgent for us. The task lies in acting persistently and consistently to ensure steady, forward progress in continuing the party's course of innovative changes. We must act in a well-thought-out, deliberate way, weighing each step in overcoming the braking mechanism and actively achieving practical results.

What else should your attention be drawn to again by today's businesslike discussion?

First of all, we must stress once more the exceptional role of the party gorkoms and raykoms in implementing restructuring. The CPSU Central Committee has persistently emphasized that without their active political position and specific practical work restructuring cannot be a success. Each party committee's task is to ensure that all primary party committees and all communists march in the vanguard of restructuring, actively manifest independence and initiative, raise standards, struggle against bureaucratism and red tape, and persistently master the political methods of leadership.

To do this, each party gorkom and raykom itself must, above all, function as an organ of truly political leadership. This requirement is a recurrent theme in the decisions of the April (1985) Central Committee Plenum and the 27th party congress. It also permeates the documents of the January CPSU Central Committee Plenum. Still, the gist of this requirement is far from fully understood and mastered by all party committees and hence by their first secretaries. To lead politically doesn't mean at all to work for everybody, as some of our party committees still attempt to do. It means primarily to ensure the active, initiatory, and fruitful work of all soviet and economic organs, and all officials, to channel their activities into the streambed of implementing party policy.

Many party gorkoms and raykoms have outlined a turn to specific work with people, to vital matters; they've raised the level of criticism and self-criticism. The number of questions examined at buro sessions has been curtailed, and the flow of papers to the primary party organizations has been reduced. Apparatus officials have begun to visit labor collectives more often.

We have quite a few such examples now. But today I'd like to say a good word about the efforts of those raykoms which have lagged behind for a long time. Matters have recently quickened in the Zarasayskiy, Telshayskiy, Moletskiy, Shvenchenskiy, Shirvintskiy, Mazheykskiy, and Akmyanskiy Rayons. True, the

shifts are still modest, but it's good that the raykom first secretaries have been able to tackle the main problems and concentrate all their efforts on solving them, have laid a firm foundation for successful work in the future. Now it's important not to slacken from the set course but to forge ahead with redoubled effort to achieve everything intended.

Nevertheless, substantial changes have not yet occurred in the work style and methods of many party committees. They still lack specificity, effectiveness, and a businesslike quality. Instead of organizing matters directly, conducting political work with people, setting up and checking out the work of primary party organizations, they waste too much time in office work. As before, they conduct various sessions and conferences, at times on trifling, current problems; managers and specialists from enterprises and farms are distracted from specific matters. At the same time, major future problems are solved half-heartedly or remain out of sight; neither efforts nor attention are focused on the lagging sections and labor collectives. For such shortcomings the past CP of Lithuania Central Committee Plenum leveled criticism at the Kapsukskiy Party Gorkom, the Kaysyadorskiy, Kelmeskiy, and Lazdiyskiy Party Raykoms.

Our old trouble is adherence to administrative methods, replacing or duplicating economic organs. In the Utenskiy, Raseynskiy, Vilkavishskiy, and Kupishskiy rayons not even the most petty economic or personal problems are decided without the knowledge of the relations or the consent of the first secretaries. It is surely understandable that this fetters the independence and removes any responsibility from the chiefs of ispolkoms, RAPO's [Rayon Agroindustrial Associations], and other organizations. They are not allowed to operate, but then people complain that they do not cope with the functions assigned to them. It has reached the point where, for example, the secretary of Vilnius's Novovilnyaskiy Party Raykom began to conduct planning sessions with officials of the ispolkom, customers, and builders. What does this have to do with political leadership?

A very important task is to take all measures to develop intra-party democracy. We've not yet radically restructured this matter. Above all, we must include members of the elected party organs in genuine party work. What I have in mind is preparing questions for discussion at plenums and buro sessions of party committees, checking up on how adopted decisions are carried out, and general political work in labor collectives. Every member of a party gorkom, raykom, or auditing commission, just as those on the Central Committee, must carry a party load and not just passively sit through party committee plenums. Only then will we be able to enhance the role of elected party organs and ensure that the party apparatus will not rise above them.

The basic shattering of outmoded stereotypes must also be done in conducting party committee plenums and meetings of party activists. The chief foe here is over-organization and false show. To expell them from our intra-party practice is a must urgent task. The January CPSU Central Committee Plenum is an example to us all in this important matter. Above all, we must find the most acceptable method for pre-acquainting party committee members with plenum report theses and resolution drafts so that they may make their own suggestions or notes in them and then participate in a businesslike way in

discussing the problems at the plenums themselves. And the speakers could deliver reports in the name of the party committee buros and not from themselves personally.

A question of principle is the businesslike quality of discussions at plenums and party meetings. Party committees have not yet rid themselves of over-organization in this matter. As before, lists of speakers are drawn up ahead of time, and the texts of the speeches are even edited and smoothed out. We must put an end to this vicious practice. So what if the plenums don't go so smoothly at first; matters won't suffer from that. We must learn democracy ourselves and then teach it to the party activists and all communists.

Nor can we remain on the sidelines with regard to the contents of the speeches. There is a certain shift toward improvement here, but it's still not enough. There's been more criticism, self-criticism, and constructive suggestions. But we still haven't gotten rid of self-praise, thrusting forward successes, empty verbiage, and political chatter. Openness, frankness, and truthfulness of opinions and appraisals continue to remain in short supply in the practice of many party committees. And it's certainly understandable why matters suffer from this. I want to say straight out that this depends entirely on the stance of the first secretaries. To achieve frankness from communists, critical views, and self-criticism, we ourselves must be ultimately frank and self-critical, must learn to call things by their right names. What is done will not proceed from us if we start boasting again. But if we cover up our shortcomings, mistakes, and other sore spots, we'll never heal ourselves.

Discussing urgent problems and working out practical solutions is only one aspect of the matter. Another, more important one is implementing everything intended. Organizing, monitoring, and verifying performance have long remained a bottleneck in our work. It's a very important problem in all the activity of the party committees. Only one or two buro sessions last year examined the progress made in carrying out the decisions of the Panevezhskiy and Shyaulayskiy gorkoms, as well as the Vilkyavishskiy, Kelmeskiy, Radvilishskiy, and other party raykoms. Party committee members have rarely been informed about implementation of decisions by conferences and plenums of the Alitusskiy and Kapsukskiy gorkoms, and the Tauragskiy, Shakyayskiy, and Pakruoyskiy party raykoms.

There's a particular deficiency in specific, organizational work on carrying out adopted decisions. It's good that fewer decisions are being adopted, but at the same time we must intensify our monitoring of their being carried out. Here we must think about additional measures for improving the system of verifying performance, not on paper, of course, but live, on the spot, with specific help in organizing this matter. We need to give this some thought in the party gorkoms and raykoms, and, of course, in the Central Committee Organizational Party Work Department.

In short, all the requirements which we've spoken about here boil down to shifting the center of gravity of all party work to the primary party organizations and labor collectives. There are shifts in this direction. But we need to pay particular attention to how to set up our own work in the

localities for serving the cause better. We need to monitor and verify, but not to hinder work by frequent "raids" nor allow over-administration. The main thing is to help the secretaries of primary party organizations and other local activists to organize matters, to conduct political and ideological-educational work.

Maximum attention must be focused on improving the activity of primary party organizations, increasing their role and influence. We spoke about this in detail at the Sixth Plenum of the CP of Lithuania Central Committee, and there's no need to repeat it. It's very important that on all questions the party committees operate exclusively through the primary committees so that they don't remain aside from any matter engaged in by the party gorkom or raykom.

The level of many party meetings remains low. Far from all of them live up to their role as a school of training; in many cases they've lost their organizational force. Over-organization, featureless reports and speeches, the lack of constructive proposals, non-specificity, and targetless criticism or the utter lack of it had led to a situation whereby, in many cases, party meetings are essentially conducted as if they were merely for protocol's sake, rather than for the good of the cause. Not, of course, simply to shake people up who for many years have become used to other people do their thinking for them, outline everything, and all they have to do is vote for it. We need to abandon the ritual schemes and stereotypes, to create a situation whereby a free, businesslike discussion takes place, and not necessarily from the rostrum, without previously prepared papers. Each of us must understand well that only through the activity of the communists will we be able to really move restructuring forward.

Indignation has been caused by the irresponsible approach of many primary party organization secretaries, insufficient attention on the part of certain gorkoms and raykoms to the preparation and conduct of party meetings on the results of the January CPSU Central Committee Plenum. There have been instances when reports were given not by partkom secretaries or labor collective leaders but by secondary persons. The agendas included too few questions. The reports were an elementary retelling of the Plenum materials, and there was no analysis of particular problems. In many cases, the discussion boiled down merely to production problems. Meetings at the Vilnius Scientific Research Institute of Radio-Measurement Instruments, the Lebatay Sovkhoz, Klaypedskiy Rayon, the Panevezhskiy Highway Administration, the Gudzhynay Kolkhoz, Kedaynskiy Rayon, the Radvilishskiy Railroad Station, the Danilava Sovkhoz, Vilnius Rayon, and in certain other party organizations were lower than any criticism. Party committees must give a principled and strict appraisal of these cases.

The main task of party committees is universal improvement of personnel work. The answer as to how to do this is deeply and manifoldly revealed in the decisions of the January CPSU Central Committee Plenum. We must proceed to carry them out with no delay. They are all important and urgent, and this implementation must be approached comprehensively. But today certain requirements must be singled out and given top priority. Above all, we must decisively raise the principled requirements and exacting standards for

officials. In any case, they must be judged by their attitude toward restructuring, by the specific results of their activity, and by whether the sectors under them are moving forward.

From this viewpoint the actions of the Kretingskiy Party Raykom deserve high marks. Some young but already experienced specialists were appointed as directors of weak farms. They also paid attention to the so-called "average" farms, which had long been marking time. They were likewise strengthened by management personnel and specialists. And matters began to improve; recently the rayon has surged forward. Last year's grain harvest increased to 33 quintals per hectare, while milk productivity rose to an average of 3.76 kilograms per cow.

Due to more active, intelligent personnel work, things have markedly improved in Plungeskiy, Ionavskiy, Akmyanskiy, and Zarasayskiy rayons, the cities of Shyauliyay, Panevezhis, Klaypeda, and some other cities and rayons.

Of prime importance is development of democracy in production and gradual introduction of self-rule in the life of labor collectives. The republic has already taken the first steps in this very important matter. For example, the Oktyabrskiy Rayon of Vilnius by putting up several candidates elected secretaries of a large party committee and Komsomol organization, 2 enterprise managers, 4 deputy plant directors, 3 division chiefs, and 80 brigade leaders. The Plasta Plant and Mintis Publishing House used the competitive system for filling vacant positions.

However, work along these lines is still too slow. We want to warn against poorly conceived actions, unjustifiably complex election procedures, insufficient openness in selecting candidates, and weak explanatory work in collectives. This is the only possible reason why certain proposed candidates have already been blackballed.

Accounts by officials at plenums and buro sessions of party gorkoms, raykoms, and meetings have become an instrument of democracy and an effective form of party control and personnel training. However, this practice is not yet widespread enough and so far is used in only one out of three party committees. Of course, reports by management personnel must not be turned into a campaign or a self-serving goal. They must be listened to in detail and not just "pro forma." Nor can we fail to pay attention to the fact that so far we hear mainly economic managers and very rarely primary party organization officials and secretaries. Last year, for example, only three department chiefs and not one secretary gave accounts at party committee buros. Listening to accounts by leading party, soviet, and economic personnel should, as a rule, be accompanied by characterizations of them. We must put into practice buro accounts at party gorkom and raykom plenums.

Certification is an effective means of personnel work and should increase their responsibility. Last year in Kaunas certification was conducted for party raykom instructors, responsible gorispolkom officials, staff chairmen of trade unions, and secretaries of Komsomol committees, as well as other categories of management personnel. A truly businesslike approach to conducting certification has been manifested by the partkom of the Western

Construction Administration. Last year 76 officials at various levels were certified here; 47 of them were promoted to higher positions, 17 were included in the reserves for promotion, and 6 officials were demoted to lower positions.

Unfortunately, this method of personnel work is undervalued by many party committees; they cannot get by without formalism and over-simplification. Sometimes only those officials who obviously are not coping with the sectors assigned to them are involved in certification. Why certify further if it's so evident that a person is in the wrong job? In the Tauragskiy Rayon, however, they proceeded specifically as follows: they conducted certification only for those special In the Tauragskiy Rayon, however, they proceeded specifically as follows: they conducted certification only for those special In the Tauragskiy Rayon, however, they proceeded specifically as follows: they conducted certification only for those specialists and subdivision officials of farms that had not fulfilled their production plans. And what measures did they adopt? Those to reduce bonuses, announce notations, and establish probation periods. But isn't this a profanation and a compromise of a measure which is essentially a good one? It's not surprising, therefore, that things are worse on the Tauragskiy Rayon's farms where there are more agricultural specialists.

Work must be radically improved on forming and training effective personnel reserves. The road to this is likewise an expansion of openness and the development of democratic principles. The main reason for the ineffectiveness of the reserves has certainly been the lack of openness in their formation and the lack of knowledge of people's suitable qualities. We can lodge complaints about personnel reserve work against virtually any party committee, but particularly against the Anikshchyayskiy, Ignalinskiy, Kedaynskiy, and Kupishkiy party raykoms.

Party committees and organizations should have the following rule: candidates for any position must be verified and discussed where they work and be collectively recommended. Of course, inclusion in the reserves is not yet a guarantee of obtaining a higher position. We must constantly work with the reserves, keep an eye on them, check up on their performance in practical tasks every day, study their political, practical, and moral qualities, help them to gradually master new stages in their work. Such openness must likewise be followed in removing from the reserves those who have not justified the hopes placed in them.

We must base all personnel changes on the group's opinion. The primary party organizations are duty-bound to steadily perform their charter requirement--to actively participate in conducting personnel policy.

In conclusion, I'd like to remind you again of the lofty role which the party has allotted to the leading party-organ officials in carrying out restructuring. It is precisely the first secretaries who are called upon to set the tone, to daily demonstrate a constructive approach to problems, a genuine party spirit in evaluating achievements. Affirming an atmosphere of critical, high standards depends primarily on you personally, Comrades. I think that a party committee secretary should be his own strictest critic.

Whether at a session of a buro, ispolkom, or visiting primary party organizations and groups, you must present an example of a self-critical approach to matters. Otherwise, all our calls for developing criticism and self-criticism will remain empty sounds. Your direct obligation is to be intolerant of shortcomings and to be dissatisfied with what all personnel have achieved.

In no way must restructuring party work be understood as a goal in itself. Reducing paperwork and sessions, starting to visit localities more is supposed to be restructuring. Such an understanding is primitive and unacceptable. Restructuring absolutely must manifest itself in increasing people's labor and public activities, radically improving all economic and training activities, and accelerating the pace of economic and social development.

The remarks made today and suggestions borrowed from your neighbors' experience must be creatively thought over and used practically in our work. And the main thing is more activism, higher, more exacting standards for ourselves and all personnel, to proceed more decisively and boldly along the path indicated by the January CPSU Central Committee Plenum.

Our urgent task of great political importance is to propose and organize well elections to local Soviets of People's Deputies. N.A. Mitkin spoke about this broadly and in detail in his report. In summing up the main thing that we must do, I want to stress the need to ensure true democratism and openness of discussion in nominating candidates for deputies, conducting elections in the spirit and full accord with the new requirements set forth by the January CPSU Central Committee Plenum.

Now to speak briefly about our current tasks. The industrial plan for the first quarter has been fulfilled for production, product sales, and labor productivity. The situation remains complex as to sales of products, taking delivery obligations into account. By this indicator the plan was only 99.3 percent fulfilled; 22 collectives, or 6 percent of all enterprises failed to cope with it. The greatest lags were allowed by the Vilnius Elfa, Alitus Machine-Building, Kedaynskiy Electric-Equipment Plants, the Neringa Fishery, and several other enterprises.

We've managed to eliminate the lag in selling livestock and fowl to the state. As compared with last year, sales of livestock and fowl increased by 2, milk by 7, and eggs by 11 percent.

The chief task now is to conduct the spring sowing well. It's complicated by the late Spring. Very intense work is needed, especially in those rayons where large areas were undersown with winter crops. Party raykoms have the task of mobilizing all their forces to finish sowing in the briefest possible time periods. But the main thing is to ensure the high quality of sowing operations--a strict observance of agro-technical requirements for sowing and maintenance of the sown areas.

It must be said that technical discipline, observance of all the requirements of agro-technology have remained a weak spot here. No matter how much we struggle to attain this, to train personnel, and remind specialists again and

again, agro-technical requirements are being violated, just as before. Fields are badly plowed, crop rotation is not observed, and part of the crops, especially grain crops, are being sown by bad precedents. There's not the needed concern for accumulating organic and effective use of mineral fertilizers, for introducing high-yield and good-quality varieties of seeds, for the struggle against weeds, pests, and diseases of agricultural crops. All these and others have been allowed most widely on the farms of the Anikshchyayskiy, Yurbarskiy, Kelmeskiy, Raseynski, Pakruoyskiy, Ignalinskiy, and Tauragskiy rayons.

It must be said straight out that these shortcomings have become deeply rooted primarily because our agronomic service works poorly. There are many specialists, but their creative work is not provided; their responsibility and that of the field technologists is too low. The republic's RAPO and Gosagroprom are affected by a superficial, outmoded work style. They are more concerned to fulfill the sowing plans on time, along with other agricultural operations. But their quality either recedes into the background or completely disappears from view. It's impossible to keep on working this way. Now, on the eve of Spring operations, we must provide necessary measures to restore everyday, strict controls on the observance of agro-technology on every farm and field.

Comrades! In conclusion, I want to return again to the question of carrying out the decisions of the January CPSU Central Committee Plenum. Discussion of them continues at the party committee plenums; they should also be discussed in the primary party organizations. We must ensure a thorough, creative conversation on the specific problems of each city, rayon, and labor collective, problems stemming from the Plenum's decisions.

Leading officials of our press, republic-level and local television and radio must intensify the elucidation of plenums and party meetings from a principled stance to provide an appraisal of the progress made by restructuring.

The CPSU Central Committee has called upon us to increase our work, develop criticism and openness, determinedly eliminate any braking processes and actions, ensure fulfillment of the plans, unite the masses around the revolutionary cause of a multi-faceted renewal of party life and that of the entire society. Our duty and a matter of honor for each of us is to do everything to carry out these noble tasks.

2384

CSO: 1800/554

ARMENIAN CP CC BODIES REVIEW FIRST-QUARTER PERFORMANCE

Yerevan KOMMUNIST in Russian 30 Apr 87 p 1

[Unattributed report: "In the Central Committee of the Armenian Communist Party"]

[Text] Meetings of the Armenian Communist Party's Central Committee Buro and Secretariat have recently taken place.

Results of the national economy as they have developed in the republic over the first quarter of 1987 were discussed. It was noted that in spite of an increase in the volume of industrial production of 4.3 percent, 31 republic associations and enterprises have not fulfilled the plan for commodity production. A major lag in fulfilling plan targets has been permitted by the Armelektromash Production Association (Comrade P. Manvelyan); the Tool-Making Association (Comrade K. Ter-Akopyan); Elektropribor (Comrade A. Kilikyan); the Kirovakan Precision Tool Plant (Comrade E. Grigoryan); the Yerevan Tire Plant (Comrade A. Sukiasyan), and other institutions. Warnings have been received by the managers of the associations and enterprises mentioned for non-fulfillment of industrial production plans. Assurances by them of unconditional compliance with plan requirements for the second quarter, eliminating the lag by mid-year, were taken into consideration.

Production efficiency indicators are improving only slowly. One association or enterprise in five has not fulfilled the plan for labor productivity, and as of January-February one enterprise in four had not met the plan target for reducing commodity production cost. Nor has there been noticeable improvement in the quality of production. Out of 28 production associations or enterprises at which state inspection has been introduced, 11 have not fulfilled the production plan and 16 have allowed a drop-off in production volume.

Substantial shortcomings persist in capital construction. There has been considerable delay in carrying out the contract program on the part of the republic Ministry of Construction (Comrade R. Melikyan) and Armagrostroy (Comrade V. Virabyan), the managements of Armgidroenergostroy (Comrade G. Oganessian), Erkommunstroy (Comrade S. Dzhavadyan), Armtonnelstroy (Comrade E. Karapetyan), and the Armaviaremstroy Trust (Comrade S. Kazaryan). The Central Committee Buro has instructed them to take the additional measures necessary to assure fulfillment of capital construction plans.

In the drive to increase livestock produce, the restructuring of farm labor in the agro-industrial complexes is also progressing slowly. Many kolkhozes and sovkhoses are performing unsatisfactorily in the wintering of livestock, and the indicators for livestock management are declining. The poorest showing in care of livestock is by the farms of Gugarskiy Rayon (Ispolkom secretary Comrade L. Bagdasaryan and chairman A. Safaryan), Tumanyanskiy Rayon (Comrades A. Shakhverdyan and S. Varosyan), Kalininskiy Rayon (Comrades V. Israyelyan K. Kocharyan), Spitakskiy Rayon (Comrades G. Mkrttychan and S. Matevosyan), and Shamshadinskiy Rayon (Comrades G. Kosakyan and G. Ovsepyan). In view of unfavorable weather conditions, together with the poor state of preparedness on republic farms, a sharp drop in the progress of spring field work has been noted.

The Armenian CP Central Committee has charged city and rayon party committees, ministries and departments, and soviet and managerial agencies with the responsibility of reviewing the state of affairs at each enterprise at which a lag has occurred and taking exhaustive measures to fulfill plan tasks for 1987. Special attention is directed to organizational efforts in labor collectives to assure high labor productivity. It is proposed to raise the personal responsibility of managers for planning discipline, regarding it as an indisputable criterion of the preparedness and capability of managerial personnel for the restructuring.

The Central Committee Buro has independently reviewed the present state of fulfilling plans for trade turnover in the first quarter. The leaders of the Armenian SSR Ministry of Trade and Aykoopa [not further identified] have shown irresponsibility in not providing for the trade turnover as planned. The first secretaries of most of the city and rayon party committees have not been able to mobilize the efforts of local party organizations and all communists to rectify the existing situation, nor have they taken active measures to fulfill plans for trade turnover, paid services, and office receipts. The Armenian SSR Ministry of Trade (Comrade M. Mkrtchyan), the management of Aykoopa (Comrade Akopyan), and leaders of the other ministries and departments comprising the trading network were warned against disruptions in fulfilling the trade turnover plan. The Central Committee Buro charged them with personal responsibility for taking the steps necessary to close the gaps of the first quarter and to achieve the unconditional fulfillment of plans for retail trade turnover. Republic ministries and departments, as well as union industrial enterprises, must undertake urgent measures to increase the production of consumer goods in demand and speed up their shipment to trading organizations, and must expand the sphere of paid services available to the public.

The progress of completing plans for constructing social and cultural service facilities was reviewed. It was noted that although in the first year of the Five-Year Plan the republic's plan for constructing houses, schools, establishments for pre-school children, hospitals and polyclinics had been fulfilled, a fundamental improvement in strengthening the material and technical resources required had not been realized. The first-quarter plan for the introduction of housing had been disrupted. Sufficient attention had not been given to

the collective contract and to new economic methods of management and control. Available technical and production resources had not been adequately used. Many top managers had not restructured their own operations and, as before, were continuing to regard the strengthening of material and technical resources as a matter of secondary importance. They had not exploited all resources for increasing the volume of construction and for putting housing and other social facilities into operation.

Party gorkoms and raykoms, city and rayon ispolkoms of the soviets of people's deputies, republic ministries and departments, together with party, trade union and Komsomol organizations, are under obligation to consider tasks set for putting into operation social and cultural facilities in 1987, and in the course of the 12th Five-Year Plan, a matter of primary political importance, and to take urgently need measures for a basic improvement in the situation, overcoming the lag that was allowed to occur during the first quarter by 1 July 1987. Leaders of the ministries and departments concerned have been warned in advance that they are being held personally responsible for the fulfillment of tasks set by the plan, utilizing for this purpose every available potential and reserve.

After reviewing the progress of measures for expanding construction and for strengthening material and technical resources for regional houses of culture and social clubs in rural localities of the republic, the Central Committee Buro noted that most of these facilities are being built with gross violation of the time limits prescribed. The quality of construction remains low.

The Central Committee Buro cited Comrade V. Virabyan, deputy chairman of the Armenian SSR State Agro-Industrial Committee, for failure to bring about a radical improvement as promised in the construction and startup of social clubs. Comrade R. Melikyan, minister of construction, was held accountable for an irresponsible attitude towards the construction of regional houses of culture and rural clubs. They were instructed to take exhaustive measures within the shortest possible time for the unconditional fulfillment of tasks as set by the plan, sufficient to place in operation in 1987 those facilities that were not ready in 1986, overcoming this backlog for the successful fulfillment of tasks set by the plan in 1988. They were cautioned that in the event of a disruption in 1987 of plans for the construction of club facilities, they would be held to even stricter accountability.

After hearing a report by the party committee of the Luys Production Association regarding work under conditions of state inspection of output, the Armenian CP Central Committee, while approving of the work carried out, noted that the association's party committee nevertheless did not succeed in increasing the activity of all primary party organizations, of party gatherings, and of each individual communist in bringing about basic improvement in output manufactured under conditions of state inspection. The party committee and association management were instructed to analyze deeply and self-critically the methods and substance of their activity under conditions of state inspection and take specific steps to eliminate shortcomings.

The Armenian CP Central Committee and the Armenian SSR Council of Ministers have adopted a decree entitled "Improving Conditions for Creative Group Activity," which outlines measures providing for the development of material and technical resources and measures to improve the social and cultural setting for creative workers.

A proposal by the Armenian SSR Council of Ministers was approved regarding the separation of the Byurakanskiy Forest Preserve in Ashtarakskiy Rayon of the Orlovskiy Administrative District and the organization on the territory of the former village of Teger in the same rayon of the Orlovskiy Sovkhoz for livestock. An adopted decree outlines measures providing for the effective utilization of potential productivity on the newly established sovkhos and for reinstating the village of Teger.

Resolutions were adopted on other matters pertaining to economic and cultural construction.

12889

CSO: 1830/512

TURKMEN OFFICIALS REPRIMANDED FOR POOR FOOD MANAGEMENT

Ashkhabad TURMENSKAYA ISKRA in Russian 7 Jan 87 p 1

[Unattributed report: "In the Turkmen CP Central Committee"; first paragraph is boldface introduction]

[Text] The Turkmen CP Central Committee passed a resolution "On Instances of an Irresponsible Attitude Towards the Organization of Trade on Holidays and Days Preceding the New Year."

The resolution notes that as a result of the irresponsible and neglectful attitudes of the leaders of a number of ministries and departments and the republic's party and soviet organs serious deficiencies were permitted in the management of pre-New Year trade, evoking justified criticism from workers.

This was felt with special acuteness in the republic's capital, the city of Ashkhabad. The Ashkhabad party gorkom and gorispolkom (Comrades Kh. Akhmedov and A. O. Bayramov), and the Lenininsky, Proletarskiy and Sovetskiy raykoms and rayispolkoms of the city of Ashkhabad (Comrades B. K. Sardzhayev, A. F. Kuskin, V. A. Solovyev, S. Bayriyev, A. Saryyev, and G. V. Solodovnikov) kept themselves aloof from the organization of holiday trade, permitting a laissez-faire attitude.

The fair [yarmarka] and other progressive forms of trade were not organized in the right way, and new trade and public dining facilities were not introduced by the holiday. The established hygiene standards at the trade enterprises were grossly violated.

The leaders of the city, divisions of the TuSSR Gosagroprom, and trade organizations did not bother to stock sufficient amounts of food products, especially meat, eggs, milk products, cold drinks, and confectionary goods. They had large reserves of potatoes, cabbage, beets, and other agricultural products in storehouses, but did not organize their delivery into the commercial network. Individual dishonest leaders of trade enterprises permitted goods, especially meat, butter, eggs, and milk products to be stockpiled.

Law enforcement organs and the People's Control Committees did not exert the proper control over the observation of trade rules.

Pre-New Year trade of food products was also unsatisfactorily conducted in the Maryy, Chardzhou, Krasnovodsk, and Tashauz oblasts.

The TuSSR Council of Ministers (Comrades G. S. Mishchenko and B. Annayev) and its trade and consumer services divisions worked intolerably slowly at solving problems dealing with the utilization of local resources of meat, leading to its prolonged absence in the commercial network. They did not exert the proper influence over the regulation and movement of commercial goods, and questions of delivering and organizing the sales of food products were not decided in a timely manner.

The TuSSR Gosagroprom and the Ministry of Grain Products organizations, giving the reasons for their actions as the fulfillment of the yearly plan, stopped delivering food products into the commercial network.

Comrade Ministers A. Yazlakov, A. Khatamov, chairman of the TuSSR Gosagroprom Comrade G. S. Mishchenko and his deputies Comrades A. K. Abdullayev, M. G. Aliyev, N. V. Yerofeyev, A. Tenirov, and L. D. Valitova made empty promises instead of organizing a timely delivery of the necessary assortment of goods and did not take practical measures to ensure the fundamental improvement in the state of affairs.

All of this testifies that the re-structuring of style and methods of work in the party committees, soviet and economic organs is going slowly, and that conditions of placidity and complacency still persist.

The divisions of agriculture and food industry, trade and consumer service of the Turkmen CP Central Committee (Comrades L. A. Kruglyakov and I. Shykhyev) did not exert sufficient control over the activity of the party, soviet and economic organs in the preparation and organization of holiday trade.

The Turkmen CP Central Committee considers such an attitude towards satisfying the barest necessities of the republic's population intolerable, and acknowledged that the work of the TuSSR Gosagroprom, the ministries of trade and grain products, and the party, soviet and economic organs of the city of Ashkhabad in supplying the population with food products for the holidays was unsatisfactory.

The TuSSR ministries of trade and grain products, Comrades A. Yazlakov and A. Khatamov, were given a stern reprimand for permitting irresponsibility in the preparation and execution of pre-holiday trade.

Serious deficiencies on the part of the leadership of the sub-departmental branches in providing the population with a regular supply of food products were sternly pointed out to the chairman of the TuSSR Gosagroprom Comrade G. S. Mishchenko and the deputy chairman of the TuSSR Council of Ministers Comrade B. Anayev.

A weakening in the party leadership and the lack of necessary control over the activities of the city's party, soviet and economic organs in preparing and fulfilling pre-holiday trade were sternly pointed out to First Secretary of the Ashkhabad party gorkom, Comrade Kh. Akhmedov.

The Ashkhabad party obkom, the Council of Ministers, Gosagroprom, and the TuSSR ministries of trade and grain products were instructed to examine the personal responsibility of the officials who have allowed deficiencies in the organization of pre-New Year and holiday trade, and stoppages in providing the republic's population with food products.

The obkoms and Ashkhabad party gorkom were ordered to establish special control over the production and timely delivery of food products into the commercial network, and over managing their efficient and uninterrupted trade. They were also ordered to raise the demand for this from the soviet and economic organs and to make party officials strictly responsible for allowing violations in providing the population with food products. Cases of interruptions and deficiencies in the trade of necessary food products will be regarded as the crudest violations of party and state discipline.

Attention to the selection and placement of personnel who are connected with the production and distribution of food products should be increased, and competent specialists with initiative who are capable of creatively solving problems which arise under the new conditions of economic operation should be promoted to leadership more boldly.

It was recommended that the People's Control Committees and law enforcement organs strengthen the struggle against negative occurrences in trade, and more actively expose and decisively curtail incidents of deceit, concealment, goods speculation, and attempts to extract unearned incomes connected with shortages of individual food products.

Sections within the Turkmen CP Central Committee were instructed to establish continual control over the activities of the party committees and soviet and economic organs in carrying out plans for producing food items and for offering the population an uninterrupted supply of high-quality food products in the necessary amount and assortment.

13174/12859

CSO: 1830/380

WESTERN EXPERIENCE CITED IN VIDEOTECHNOLOGY DEBATE

Moscow NEDELYA in Russian No 13, 1987 pp 14-15

[Excerpts from conference at the All-Union Scientific Research Institute of Cinematic Art, prepared by Dm. Chernigovskiy: "Video Magic or Video Madness?"; first paragraph is NEDELYA introduction]

[Text] The video boom, the "third screen revolution," the new audio-visual age.... The massive launching of videotechnology is now causing not only delight at the new horizons for the technical and aesthetic possibilities of "home movies," but is also revealing a number of extremely acute, at times even pathological problems. The latter have recently been discussed in the pages of the central newspapers, and NEDELYA has also paid attention to them under its traditional rubric "Videotheque." In the this latest, fifth edition of "Videotheque" we present for the readers' attention excerpts from the stenographic report of a conference entitled "The Present-Day Status and Prospects for Development of Videocassette Movies," which was held at the All-Union Scientific Research Institute of Cinematic Art.

S.V. DROBASHENKO, doctor of art studies and deputy director, All-Union Scientific Research Institute of Cinematic Art:

"Our conference is being attended by creative workers who are beginning to study video photography and the output of video movies, by theoreticians of this comparatively new, for us, type of audio-visual art, and by the organizers of movie production.

"Video movies have already demonstrated their important role in teaching, in the dissemination, accumulation, and storage of information, and in propaganda work. But this is also a field for artistic means of expression; this is our future. We must look the truth square in the face and be guided by the fact that by the end of this century video will obviously become the dominant type of cinematography.

"Attention has also been drawn to the fact that video photography has hardly destroyed the movie as the structural unit of production. The movie has remained; the movie has been strengthened; it is the basic form of video output. It seems to me that this is very important because it attests to the

fact that movie-making has evolved, found the parameters of its own dimensions, and discovered means of expression that are suitable for viewers."

Yu.V. VORONTSOV, doctor of philosophical sciences and chief, Department of Cinematic Sociology, All-Union Scientific Research Institute of Cinematography:

"The year 1985 will go down in the annals of our homeland's culture as the beginning of the Age of Video. It was precisely in that year that television cassettes, and television movies, formerly a unique kind of attractive, exotic diversion, were designated as a notable, socio-cultural stratum.

"In this field we are, unfortunately, lagging considerably behind the leading Western countries. During the current five-year plan we are getting ready to turn out several hundred thousand video tape recorders, whereas in the USA last year they were already selling more than a million video tape recorders of various designs every month, and one billion, 200 million videocassette recordings were rented.

"In our country the new channel of culture and communications has proved to be not only technically unprepared but also organizationally helpless. We do not have reliable data on the composition of the already-existing video-viewing public; in contrast to the owners of ordinary television sets, the customers of video salons, as a rule, are extremely unwilling to talk about themselves. Only a few of them say in a filtered, strained kind of manner: 'I work in motor-vehicle service,' 'I'm a barber,' or 'I'm a dentist.' Most of them tactfully refrain from answering. It is possible that a certain role has been played here by the fact that the initial publications about the development of video were reports of court trials. It would seem that when a progressive phenomenon catches everybody unaware, it frequently assumes unhealthy forms. We must take into account the fact that the circle of individual owners of video will consist for a long time primarily of persons whose spiritual needs and tastes do not coincide with those prospects for video about which art scholars dream.

"Our lag in the field of videototechnology is considerable; at the present time there are no possibilities for rapidly catching up to, let's say, the USA or Japan. But we can and must utilize the existing video tape recorders (VTR's). For this purpose we must soberly analyze the pluses and minuses of world experience and subordinate video magic to our collectivistic tendencies and the characteristics of the socialist way of life. Collective video viewing--which they do not have in the West--is a path with very good prospects for us.

"Our press has published a great deal about video madness, video mafia, about video corrupting the hearts and souls of young people, about court trials of video owners who organize underground sessions and who sell videocassettes with ideological rot.

"Undoubtedly, severe measures are needed in this regard. But prohibitions alone, as is also true in the case of the fight against drunkenness and drug addiction are not enough for us. We need a general, well-thought-out program, not only including responsive propaganda, visual and clear, but also

encompassing a system of practical deeds skillfully and intelligently opposing the above-indicated evil. The best foreign films imported into our country must be drawn from the ranks of banned, "underground" films, transferred to the ranks of those which are legal and accessible. There has even been experience in showing such films with the indication: 'From the collection of so-and-so....'

"And lastly this. Unfortunately, the idea has come to be commonly accepted that the mass dissemination of video is a matter of such a remote future that it has no practical value. Such an erroneous delusion has already cost us dearly. Just as in the case of computerization, the public must clear-sightedly and constantly follow the progress of videofication. It must be borne in mind, moreover, that the development of video movies must not be allowed to drift by itself. And it should serve not only individual but primarily public demands."

F.I. PEREPELOV, director of the All-Union Videofilm Association:

"Our enterprise has been in existence for half a year. During this time 61 videotheques have been opened, it is planned to open another 75 during 1987, and about 500 over the period of the entire five-year plan. Is that too many or too few? If we take the average period of one videotheque's operation, it does not exceed 100 days. Only the one salon on Arbat Street has been in operation for more than a year. Nevertheless, during this period of time we have served 50,000 customers and rented out 90,000 cassettes. Moreover, it is necessary to take into account the catastrophic shortage of video equipment and the extremely small production volumes of videocassettes, which has noticeably slowed down the rate of development of videofication. In 1990 we will produce 1 million recorded cassettes, and this year the figure is 250,000.

"Our video stock now amounts to approximately 700 titles. Of these, 10 are documentary programs, 42 are feature films from socialist countries, and 16 are films from capitalist countries; the remainder are feature films from our homeland. All these films are from the existing stock of movies and have merely been transposed to video. It is still too early to speak about the production of original video programs, as the press demands. Our association operates on the principles of cost accounting, but not only the video movies but even the videotheques themselves have yet paid back a return on their investment. Many of them rent out less than one cassette a day on an average. At the existing and planned production volumes of video apparatus and cassettes, even taking into account the rather high prices on cassettes, we cannot count on the video stock paying for itself; at present it pays back only at the rate of six percent.

"As regards the production of original video programs, with the existing technology video movies are shot by the cinematic method and then transferred to video film, a process which makes production extremely expensive. This inevitably affects the quantity of the programs being produced."

Yu.N. DROZDOV, video center chief, TsSDF [Central Studio of Documentary Films]:

"That's the way things stand at many studios. Here now the Cinema Studio imeni Dovzhenko created a video movie, shot by the usual movie-making technology, using archival material on V. Vysotskiy, There was very little of Vysotskiy himself, and for more than 60 minutes only conversations about him. This film cost 200,000 rubles.

"The Lenfilm Studio shot a regular concert for video, similar to those that TsT [Central Television] turns out every week--Polunin, Leontiev, and others. This "little concert" cost 860,000 rubles. That's very expensive."

A.I. LIPKOV, candidate of art studies and senior scientific staff member, All-Union Scientific Research Institute of Art Scholarship:

"I would dispute Yu.V. Vorontsov's opinion regarding the fact that we could effectively use the number of video tape recorders which we have if we set up collective viewings. I do agree that the first step necessary for us is to develop collective forms of using video tape recorders. But it would be a profound mistake to plan this as a long-term prospect. The same thing happened with books and journals: there was a time when the village reading-room was considered to be the principal cultural place in a village. But it can hardly be thought that the village reading-room will be retained.

"Sociologists have calculated that there are now 4 billion books in the state repositories, while there are 45 billion in private holdings. In my opinion, videocassettes and videodisks constitute the closest analogy to books both as a means of communication and with regard to the depth of personal perception of the information placed therein.

"Therefore, in planning the initial stage as a stage for developing all collective forms of vide culture, we must absolutize it for the long-term future."

L.F. LAVRUKHINA, Director of the Video Salon on Arbat Street:

"One such collective form of video culture is our video hall with its 40 seats. It was opened a year ago, and here we show Soviet films of the current repertoire along with movie rentals one or two months ahead of schedule. Our video booths or micro-halls are very popular; they are designed for group viewing by four persons each.

"Just a few words about prices. The cost of renting one cassette ranges from 1.5 to 5 rubles. The video halls have the following price structure: children's session--25 kopecks, newsreels and documentaries--35 kopecks. Adult sessions range from 70 kopecks to 1 ruble, 40 kopecks, while in the booths prices range from 4 rubles, 70 kopecks to 9 rubles, 80 kopecks."

I.Ye. KOKAREV, candidate of philosophical sciences, director, Scientific Center, USSR Union of Cinematographers:

"I'd like to briefly characterize the American movie output, inasmuch as this experience could prove to be instructive. There are, so to speak, three basic groups of movies. Feature films comprise the first group, but today it is no longer the fundamental group. The entire stock of American (and now no longer just American) motion pictures has been transferred to video. Of the 4,500 video recordings of programs produced every year in the USA, feature films constitute only one-third, whereas the remaining two-thirds merit special discussion. A significant portion of these two-thirds are films which we would call educational. These include educational courses of the broadest range--academic, university courses, courses on driving motor vehicles, gardening, growing flowers, etc. This trend of forming practical skills has the best prospects at present, and its market is very large. The third trend is amateur video.

"For many of today's Americans, the video camera has replaced the personal diary. And increasingly wider use is being made of the propagandistic possibilities of videotechnology for exerting influence on the masses.

"The possibilities for satisfying the most refined, differentiated needs of an enormous audience with the help of video are limitless. This is still difficult for us to imagine because it was only 20 years ago that we began to speak about the differentiation of movies and only about two years ago that we began to utilize this category in planning the repertoire of movie theaters. Video dictates a completely different differentiation, more refined and more dynamic. And it is already clear what its public is creating now--it is buying cassettes."

V.V. SELIVANOV, division chief, Moscow Criminal Investigation Unit:

"We first came up against the problem of video around 1980, when viewings of films, often pornographic in content, became widespread among Moscow's inhabitants.

"As you know, criminal responsibility for disseminating pornography is provided for by Art. 228 of the RSFSR Criminal Code.

"Up to the present time the legislative procedure has not solved the problem with expertise of relegating or not relegating a video movie to the category of pornographic. Moscow has two institutions which we draw on for expertise. These are the Department of Sexual Pathology of the Hospital imeni Ganushkin and the All-Union Scientific Research Institute of Cinematic Arts of USSR Goskino [USSR State Committee for Cinematography].

"Now imagine the following situation, which is typical for us. With regard to films sent for an expert opinion, the sexual pathologists provide a conclusion on the basis of which the matter is tried in court. A lawyer casts doubt on the competence of the institution pronouncing the expertise, based on the fact that what is being talked about is a movie, and hence the expert opinion should come from the All-Union Scientific Research Institute of

Cinematographic Arts, to which the court also sends video movies for a second expert opinion.

"The result is: 'the films presented are not pornographic....'"

"We need a single, authoritative, expert institution, all the more so in that the Decree of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, dated 1 August 1986, has introduced criminal responsibility in accordance with Art. 228 of the RSFSR Criminal Code for the "making of storage for the purpose of dissemination of video movies propagandizing the cult of violence and cruelty." What films can be relegated to this category? Who should conduct the expertise with regard to them? Up to the present we have had no precise answers to these questions.

QUESTION: How many video installations do we have in this country?

V.V. SELIVANOV: We cannot estimate their total number for the country as a whole.

QUESTION: Many skilled translators have given up their staff jobs and switched over to simultaneous translation of cassettes. They earn a great deal of money....

V.V. SELIVANOV: At the present time the juridical practice is such that not a single translator has been involved in criminal responsibility, although, as it seems to me, the factor of complicity is evident here.

QUESTION: I recently visited a family of people's artists who have traveled all around the world. They have about 500 cassettes, including everything: high art and porno.... How do you proceed in such cases?

V.V. SELIVANOV: Owning and keeping pornographic materials does not constitute a crime if the goals of further disseminating them are not pursued.

QUESTION: My niece has returned from Africa. She worked there for three years and brought home a bagful of cassettes. They are the usual hits; they are normal in their contents. Can these cassettes be copied onto her own video tape recorder?

V.V. SELIVANOV: You are a specialist in art scholarship, and once such a specialist says that the materials are normal, then they can be copied.

L.A. ALOVA, candidate of arts studies, junior scientific staff member, All-Union Scientific Research Institute of Cinematic Art:

"The encounter between two forces--cinematography and television--has led to the victory of a third force--video art, to be more precise, video culture or videotechnology, as this phenomenon is called by those who are in no hurry to promote it to the rank of art. This phenomenon is unusually young. The year 1965, New York--these were the time and the place of the birth of the new artistic experiment, the meaning and importance of which are still far from understood (it was in that year that the Japanese firm of Sony hit the American market with a portable camera and video tape recorder).

Just how should this phenomenon be regarded? I. Bergman has said the following about the cinema and video: 'I must confess that I don't see any sort of difference between them. It is only the viewers that are different: some sit in chairs and are immersed in the darkness of an auditorium, while others have children swarming about their feet and a ringing telephone. Today we are at the border between the mode of film-making which has remained unchanged over the course of 30 years and a colossal electronic revolution that has already begun to be carried out. I think that the new means of expression is simply fantastic!'"

M.Ye. GOLDOVSKAYA, producer-director, Ekran Creative Association TsT [Central Television]:

"I understand that things are in bad shape with regard to videototechnology in our country, and there's no knowing when they will be better. But the young people will study this and will shoot their own films. And if they make porno films, then Comrade Selivanov and his colleagues will block the path to such people. But for the overwhelming majority of our young people, access to videototechnology will open up colossal opportunities to step up their creative activity.

"Four years ago, when I had not yet gotten my hands on a video camera, I wrote an article to the effect that video was the future of the documentary movie. This was a purely theoretical proposition which I wanted to verify. The viewer judges our films without taking into consideration what torments, what tears, and what blood this costs. I am convinced that in a documentary film equipment plays a far-from-secondary role; it is no less important than the artist's head and talent. In a documentary movie videototechnology is, perhaps, even more necessary than in a feature film.

"What does videototechnology provide? Let me attempt to explain, based on the example of my latest picture, "Arkhangel Peasant." This was my second video movie. Above all, I wanted to prove that a film could be shot by the video method, and that this film would be in no way different than a cinematic film. I achieved a 'pure' video film. In the first place, the feeling of a documentary quality, of the stream of life is present here and cannot in any way be compared with the cinematic method because of the limit of the physical film. A feeling of absolute freedom, of an unfettered creativity is instantaneously conveyed to all the participants in the shooting, even to the non-professionals. A completely unique problem is that of video montage [editing]. With the presently existing technology, it has become unthinkable complicated. Just imagine the following: an hour of work in video montage costs 85 rubles, whereas an entire day of cinema montage costs only 6 rubles. This means that the producer-director must edit a picture in 10 shifts; otherwise he or she exceeds the budget estimate. It is impossible to edit anything in 10 shifts. The present-day system of video montage is simply retarding the development of documentary work. In order to approach the level of present-day requirements as closely as possible, we must master a different editing technology. It has long existed abroad; we did not know about this, and so we invented it ourselves. We edited "Arkhangel Peasant" on ordinary video equipment, rewriting the coded images on a household-type video tape recorder. Based on my own experience, I can say the following: about 100

hours went just for looking at the material. This was a difficult process--as if rewriting the material. In the cinema there is a different psychology of editing: you take two frames, splice them together--and there you have a hand-made thing. You check out every splice on the screen. In our new videotechnology you can put the entire picture together on paper in a preliminary way. In the apparatus we assembled it in 12 hours.

"The technical, creative, and aesthetic possibilities of video are enormous; if we do not utilize them, we will be losing time while waiting to do so."

BY HEREBY PUBLISHING FRAGMENTS OF THE STENOGRAPHIC REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE HELD AT THE ALL-UNION SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF CINEMATOGRAPHY, WE CERTAINLY DO NOT INTEND TO PUT AN END TO THE DISCUSSION OF THE PROBLEMS INVOLVED IN VIDEO. ON THE CONTRARY, DISCUSSION OF THIS PROBLEM HAS REALLY JUST BEGUN. AS ALWAYS, WE AWAIT LETTERS FROM OUR READERS, AND WE ALSO COUNT ON THE PARTICIPATION OF SPECIALISTS IN THE FIELD OF THE CINEMA, TECHNOLOGISTS, AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE LAW-ENFORCEMENT ORGANS. TO PUT IT MORE BRIEFLY, UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN UNDER OUR RUBRIC "VIDEOTHEQUE.

2384

CSO: 1800/581

MOSCOW TV STUDIES ELECTION OF PLANT OFFICIAL

LD242323 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 24 May 87

[Commentator Aleksandr Tikhomirov commenting; from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Tikhomirov in studio] Hello, comrades! As you will remember, this fact was quoted at the January plenum: 8,500 managers in Kransodar Kray have now been elected directly by their collectives, and not appointed from above. That means they already have rich experience, it means that there are some things to stand by and some to reject, and it is not by chance that we were given the following information by the kraykom: there are instances where people who are not capable of providing leadership get elected to posts. Let's start with this conversation:

[Begin recording] [Video shows meeting in workshop]

[Tikhomirov] Are you in favour of elections, or of appointment?

[Unidentified man] Elections.

[Unidentified woman] Elections.

[Second unidentified man] Elections, like they have at RAF [Rigaminibus work], with five or six or eight candidates, instead of just offering one.

[Third unidentified man] I agree with that; I am in favor of elections, too.

[Tikhomirov] Let's make it simple, please will those in favour of elections put their hands up. [Video shows all present raising their hands]
[end recording]

[Tikhomirov in studio] And so they are for elections, but for real ones, for democracy, but full democracy. But now, if I may, a question: Are they elections for elections' sake, or democracy for democracy's sake? Or do they have another, more important aim? I ask this because those people we have just been speaking to have, to put it plainly, gone astray, and do not know a way out of the situation that has arisen. [video shows empty meeting hall] It was in this empty hall that they elected a director for the newly formed combine for industrial housebuilding. Incidentally, the article on this event in LITERATURNAYA GAZETA is trenchantly entitled "A Misfire--How the Manager Was Installed." One was installed, but they elected another.

[Begin recording] [Video shows workshop meeting]

[Welder Yu. S. Kulikov, identified by caption] Just understand one thing, I was not shouting for Luzin, saying it was Luzin we had to have. I wasn't at a football match. But I have worked a long time at the factory, 12 years, and I just expressed my opinion, and that opinion was backed up by the collective, that's all.

[Tikhomirov] Did you vote as well?

[Unidentified woman] Yes, I voted too.

[Tikhomirov] For Luzin, of course.

[Woman] Yes, for Luzin.

[V.B. Andreyev, secretary of association's party committee identified by caption] We in the party committee believed, and are now profoundly certain, that Comrade Sivov is much stronger as a specialist and as a manager than Comrade Luzin, and that well, Comrade Luzin was wasting his time taking on such a burden as the first manager. He knew and we were certain that he was unlikely to cope with it. [end recording]

[Tikhomirov in studio] I perceived that they voted not for Luzin, (?they were against everything, we read) in the article. They were voting for independent choice, and against insulting flirtation with the collective. Now look again at the heading of the article [video shows newspaper article] A month, a little more than that, has passed, and behind the heading is a second meaning--another misfire, but not now of the management or of the party committee, but of the whole collective. The combine has undersupplied a little more than 20,000 square meters of housing. The combine is working in fits and starts; the claydite supplies to the construction module works are irregular. But, get ready for this, the most important thing is that Luzin, the new director, has already handed in his resignation twice. Now this is the opinion that is forming:

[Begin recording] [Video shows several people in turn at construction site]

[N.P. Zakharchenko, team-leader, identified by caption] Well, I think he is in the wrong job, the job of manager.

[A.S. Balabon, plasterer, identified by caption] I think pretty much the same as Zakharchenko.

[S.V. Bardachev, plasterer, identified by caption] That's right, because some time has now passed since the election, (?there are no) radical changes for the better, and there are even crude omissions in the work. [end recording]

[Tikhomirov in studio] But there are also opinions such as this:

[Begin recording] [Video shows workshop] [Unidentified man] We have been held up for the whole country in LITERATURNAYA GAZETA as playing at democracy. But you tell me, what do you think, after articles like that, can normal conditions be created for the director to work in?
[end recording]

[Tikhomirov in studio] See how passions run high; but nobody takes any notice of why the director wants to leave his post--his state of health. Everyone sees behind this the continuation, as it were, of some behind-the-scenes struggle, and all because there was not full, real truth right from the start, there was no openness in all this election episode. Because this is lacking today, as well.

[Begin recording] [Man] It's all being done behind a screen again, you understand? Why not tell the collective? Why is this so? We have played at democracy, and now again they are going to stifle it all, it's the old thing again. [end recording]

[Tikhomirov in studio] Why indeed? I think it is because so far they are not able to do it any other way. Because they are trying to restructure themselves without, in essence, changing anything. For example, administrative pressure is dressed up in the clothes of democracy; rigging of meetings is replaced by rigging of the draft decision. And they are unwilling to realize the main thing, that these elections are so necessary today precisely because, if you care to think about it, people have a right to choose the captain for such an unusual and, let's put it plainly, dangerous journey, voyage, that is, total financial autonomy. And that's where the talking should have begun.

[Begin recording] [Video shows workshop]

[Tikhomirov] Does your pay and your well-being today depend on the final output, the output of square meters of housing, or not?

[Unidentified man] So far we have not specifically gone over to that, and we do not know how it will be. [end recording]

[Tikhomirov, in studio] You heard that? But meanwhile, it is from this month, May, that the combine went over to complete self-financing and self-recouping. Standing alongside me during the conversation there in the workshop was the second secretary of the party raykom; he was shaking his head and groaning, saying: What a sad case; the economic mechanism is not having any influence on people's awareness. But listen, who is to blame for this? Isn't it the very basic essence of party work today to explain things to people, to lay it all out for them and make sense of it, to spread out the charts and say: You are voting today not just for a director, you are voting in practice for your own destiny, that is what you are choosing. You are voting now for the success or the total failure of the work of your enterprise, for your apartment, in the final analysis, for your pay. So don't choose whoever you feel most comfortable with, but the one that is most useful.

CITY AUTHORITIES, PRESS DISPUTE OVER CRITICAL ARTICLES

Baku BAKINSKIY RABOCHIY in Russian 12 Apr 87 p 2

[Article by L. Polonskiy, Sheki: "To the Sounds of Fanfares, or Why a Newspaper Correspondent Turned out to Be Unsuitable"; first paragraph is BAKINSKIY RABOCHIY introduction]

[Text] Immediately after publication in BAKINSKIY RABOCHIY of the article entitled "Musician with...A Tray" (6 February 1987), which spoke about disorders in the Sheki public-dining system, the telephone began ringing in the editorial offices. A. Radzhabov, first secretary of the Sheki Party Gorkom, without adducing any specific proofs, stated that the article in question, although it does raise an urgent, vitally important topic, is hardly well-founded. Then Adi Musaevich touched upon the personality of the article's author, Teimur Khalilov, BAKINSKIY RABOCHIY staff correspondent for the Sheki-Zakatal'sk Zone: perhaps he had stayed in Sheki too long; maybe it would be more feasible to transfer him to different regions; and how good it would be if we sent a "fresh" person with fresh views to replace him in Sheki.

Then there arrived two written responses to the newspaper article, responses signed by A. Radzhabov and sent to the editors one after the other. They acknowledged the criticism to be correct and informed the editors concerning measures being undertaken and plans for eradicating the shortcomings in the public-dining system. These responses had been drawn up in general terms, according to the simple scheme of the usual, pro forma written replies, but that is not to the point here. At the same time as this, BAKINSKIY RABOCHIY received yet a third response, this one over the signature of F. Karaev, acting chairman of the Sheki Gorispolkom. While agreeing with the criticism as a whole, he decisively undertook to refute its parts. Doubt was cast on the personality of the article's author, as well as his methods of work and his good character.

Having compared the responses, one would be justified in thinking that Gorkom Secretary A. Radzhabov does not share such categorical views as the acting chairman of the gorispolkom and that he takes a completely opposite position on this score. However, what A. Radzhabov had refrained from saying in the official documents he was not embarrassed to add in subsequent communications

to the editors and to higher-ranking organs. And at our first meeting in Sheki, Adi Musaevich Radzhabov set forth his ideas in more detail, and they coincided amazingly with the formulations in F. Karaev's letter:

"Teimur Khalilov is a native of Sheki, and therefore he is incapable of being objective.... He has his own prejudices, and he uses his service position for improper purposes....The article entitled 'Musician with...A Tray,' which contains quite a few distortions and inaccuracies, was written in revenge for someone's not carrying out a personal request of his.... People are indignant, and the town is full of talk about the correspondent's behavior...."

In conclusion, the gorkom secretary insisted on the immediate recall of this staff correspondent, who had supposedly lost the moral right to represent the republic-level newspaper.

The accusations mentioned here are certainly very serious. Let's try to analyze them and clear up the situation which has arisen in Sheki. All the more so in that this is important in principle and goes far beyond the bounds of a local conflict.

The article entitled "Musician with a Tray" had not yet been written but was still, as they say, in the inkwell, but an unhealthy hullabaloo had already arisen around it. The gorkom secretary had already protested the correspondent's very intention of preparing material on improprieties within the public-dining system in Sheki. At first, Adi Musaevich had appealed to the staff correspondent's feelings of local "patriotism"; subsequently his work began to be hindered by all sorts of obstacles. It was just as if, by a wave of a conductor's baton, the employees of restaurants, cafes, and snack-bars undertook to report together and in the same expressions to the nighers about what the correspondent was asking them, what interested him, and how he was conducting himself. In one of these reports the following was angrily stated: T. Khalilov spoke as if he were a staff-member of the law-enforcement organs (?!). It should be noted, by the way, that it was precisely these reports, together with a lengthy narrative by R. Bekirov, the director of the public-dining association, in which he set forth the merits and worths of the public-dining enterprises, as well as utterly denying the criticism contained in the newspaper article, which served both the acting chairman of the gorispolkom, F. Karaev, and the first secretary, A. Radzhabov, as the basis for making attacks on the author of the published article.

Sessions of the gorkom buro constitute one source of information, but now the BAKINSKIY RABOCHIY correspondent, as well as representatives of the other mass news media, have ceased to be invited there. Nor are they called any longer to various types of convocations, conferences, and activist meetings.

To get rid of an unsuitable journalist--this thought possessed the leading comrades in Sheki. And it was not at all necessary to have recourse to the most extreme measures here, that is, similar to those which were practiced in Voroshilovgrad, where a journalist was put behind bars. How much more correct and "humane," it is, finally, to cast doubts on a person's honor and his moral creed, to sow mistrust toward him, to create a thick fog in which one cannot

make out where the truth is and where the lie is. "Many of his close and distant relatives work in public dining,"--having in mind T. Khalilov-- Acting Gorispolkom Chairman F. Karaev declared in his letter to the editors with the blessing of A. Radzhabov. We checked this out too. It turned out that the entire mass of "close and distant relatives" consisted of merely of Takhir Ismailov, the cousin of our staff correspondent's sister's husband--the seventh water from kisel [stewed fruit]. He has worked in public dining for 20 years and began there long before T. Khalilov became a correspondent. He has a very modest job as a pastry-worker and formerly used to be a snack-bar expeditor. And the personal contacts between the correspondent and him over the course of all these years are directly proportional to the degree of their kinship.

The BAKINSKIY RABOCHIIY correspondent has recently published a series of important articles on burning issues. They have exposed shortcomings and set forth topical problems connected with restructuring: "Be More Strict with Yourself," "Money Has Been Invested, But Where's the Yield?", "What's Being Done in the New Buildings?". In the party gorkom, as well as other city and rayon organizations, they considered it superfluous to react to them. But here to the publication of "Musician with...a Tray" three replies ensued within a brief interval. But precisely why did it provoke such a stormy reaction, such open and unconcealed irritation?

We do not exaggerate when we say that the new restaurants and cafes which we talked about without delight in "Musician with...a Tray" are the favorite "children" of the gorkom first secretary. He did not simply illuminate their openings by their presence but also ceremonially cut the red ribbon at their entrances. Rousing, beautiful words were uttered into a microphone in the excitement of the moment. It is difficult to believe, but the luxurious, top-class Leziz Restaurant was built and equipped in only two weeks. The splendidly designed shoe store located kitty-corner across from it was erected in slightly more than one month. But the building to house the children's chess school, located between the restaurant and the store, in six years has not risen any higher than the first floor, and its abandoned walls are surrounded by grass mixed with weeds. This is the ninth year of construction on the family-type dormitory for silk workers in Sheki, and nobody knows when it will be finished.

Let's return to the replies which came into the editorial offices from Sheki. How pathologically the criticism of the privileged projects of public dining are treated in them! The staff correspondent is blamed for his tendentious, unjustifiably ironic description of the Leziz Restaurant and the tea hall adjoining it. And, contradicting himself, an official did not fail to report through the curtain that, within a few months after the check-up conducted by the author of the article entitled "Musician with...a Tray", "a number of shortcomings has been partially liquidated, and work on eliminating them is continuing. If one considers that shifting the tea hall from a damp area into one which flows into the snack-bar, very close to the display window with cognac, vodka, and whiskey means eliminating shortcomings, then placing a hand on my heart, I am compelled to agree with the acting gorispolkom chairman, F. Karaev. I also relate with understanding to his report that in the last two years no complaints have been received concerning the service to the

population of Sheki in the public-dining enterprises. Is this not impressive proof as to what heights openness has reached in the city?! No complaints or reprimands to you at all from the customers! Although, as is known, the gorkom buro, in discussing in November of last year the report of R. Bekirov, the public-dining director, noted that overcharging of customers by the waiters had become a common phenomenon in the system, dishes that are not on the menu are being cooked in the restaurants, random persons [i.e., casual employees] are working in the cafes and snack-bars, anti-sanitary conditions are becoming part of the norm, and over the course of a year and eight months 118 persons committed transgressions or gross violations of discipline or trade regulations.

Such is also the value of most of the remaining references to the measures that have been or are being undertaken. None of the musicians named in the article have been separated from their trays, and they all, as before, remain in their jobs as waiters and chaichi [tea-servers] in the restaurant, cafe, or tea-hall.

The struggle against ill-gotten gains and unearned incomes is being waged in Sheki timidly, with a long look back, and often merely for appearances' sake. And so even openness and intolerance of shortcomings obviously is not to the liking of some leading comrades in the city. How much dearer to their taste are the glittering, loud, parade-type reports about all possible sorts of festivals, reviews, rallies, and jubilees!

From the high, republic-level rostrum somebody once spoke about the puffed-up quality and false showiness of the noisy effects, and chasing after a deceptive scale, as allowed by the first secretary of the Sheki Party Gorkom, A. Radzhabov, in arranging a holiday celebration. Self-advertisement, pomp, an exaggerated opinion about his own person--these are traits which A. Radzhabov has not yet overcome. Is it easy for him to avoid them when he has become used to being in the spotlight, in the unchanging focus of universal attention, when--with his consent and encouragement--there has been an intensive propagandization and glorification of his actions, practically at every step?!

Ah, these red ribbons--silken, satiny, shining in the sun! How many times had they been cut by the official's hand. At the opening of the Dashkyn Restaurant, the motor-vehicle-repair station, the new building of the GAI [State Motor-Vehicle Inspectorate], the House of Communications with the Telefonchu Cafe.... Adi Musaevich is not indifferent to the newspaper page, the television camera, and the photo study.

Glancing through the files of the city newspaper, SHEKI FEKHLESI, I involuntarily focused my attention on the spacious report on Sheki's festival of labor and art. I was struck by the mobility and tirelessness of Adi Musaevich, his capacity to hurry everywhere. And the newspaper reported in detail on all his movements and episodes. The name A. Radzhabov was cited eight times in this account. At the Bartashensk Highway the first gorkom secretary cut the ribbon at the opening of the Eppak Bakery Store, and girls dressed in national costumes handed him the traditional bread and salt. He also cut the ribbon in Fizuli Park at the flower exhibit and at the Rakhil

House of Books. On that same day Adi Musaevich handed out Komsomol cards, passports, and work permits; to fortunate new homeowners he presented the cherished new purchase orders. At the reconstructed Peace Square A. Radzhaev gave a speech, at the folk arts museum, located in an 18th-century fortress, he received exhibits--gifts from citizens, and in the central stadium he gave the concluding remarks to complete the holiday.

A tribute of glorification addressed to the gorkom first secretary was twice introduced into the high-circulation newspaper IPEKCHI. What a costly headline the following must have been, set in large type on the first page: "Comrade A. Radzhabov--Guest of Kievan Silkworkers"! Described in detail is a business trip by Adi Musaevicha Radzhabov, his meetings with colleagues, workers, engineers, as well as the friendly ties that bind them, becoming acquainted with the leading-edge experience, and it is mentioned that he conveyed greetings from the people of Sneki to the workers of Darnitsa.

The party gorkom has too weakly keyed its own press organ and high-circulation newspaper onto restructuring, onto developing new criteria alien to glorification and complacency. Over a three-year period the gorkom buro only once discussed a problem devoted to the press: it listened to a report by N. Nabiev, the editor of SHEKI FEKHLESI, on preparing and shedding light on the election campaign. And in the plans for this year problems connected with the press have not been provided for.

Is it really wise that, amid this practice, when false show reigns, along with a lack of desire to carry dirt out of the hut, that criticism meets a hostile reception? By insisting on a recall of the republic-level newspaper's staff correspondent and attempting to disavow him, Adi Musaevich Radzhabov has obviously forgotten that it is 1987 now and that the atmosphere has become completely different. It is high time that we said goodbye to such ideas, so pleasant to certain leading officials, as if journalists were merely chroniclers, using exclusively rosy colors, as if in their writing they close their eyes to negative aspects and opened their eyes wide in admiring our achievements.

The editors of BAKINSKIY RABOCHIY realize that there are shortcomings in the work of their staff correspondent for the Sheki-Zakatal'sk Zone: in particular, he does not have enough critical fuse, the ability to reveal the experience of innovators, a mistake was allowed in preparing a sketch on the delegate to the Azerbaijan Komsomol Congress. However, none of this has anything to do with all that nonsense which has been stirred up against him in Sheki. By the way, that business about some sort of personal request of his was not confirmed. There simply was none....

At our second meeting Adi Musaevich Radzhabov spoke differently about the staff correspondent and the leading officials of the public-dining system, and he distributed the accents differently. Had it become clear to him that the invalid line taken to blacken and discredit the correspondent and to suppress criticism had already become very vulnerable?

2384

CSO: 1800/581

APPEAL OF FINNISH TV IN ESTONIA ASSESSED

PM271425 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 May 87 Morning Edition p 7

[V.I. Arsenyev article: "Six TV Channels; People in Tallinn Watch Central TV Channels 1 and 2, Moscow, Leningrad, and Republic Channels, and Two Finnish TV Channels"]

[Text] It is not far to Helsinki--less than 100 km. Reception of Finnish broadcasts is strong, and if televisions are equipped with a special accessory--and almost all Tallinn people have one--there is no problem adjusting the volume.

How is Estonian TV operating in the face of this natural and ever-present competition?

The first thing I saw on Finnish TV Channel 1 when I switched on the television just after 1800 hours last Thursday was a children's program: A black-bearded mulatto, thin as a whip, was teaching 11-year-old Finns modern dances, including breakdancing. I found this unusual, of course. But I went on to see a great many things that we are not used to seeing. Particularly on the news programs. Watching the news program on Finnish TV Channel 1 at 2130 (the equivalent of our "Vremya" program) and the commercial Mainos-TV newscast on Finnish TV Channel 2 broadcast daily at 2300 hours (2200 hours in Finland), I could see that their camerawork was much richer than on our channels. Their commentaries, people who know Finnish told me--Estonians understand the language--are also clear and pithy. Say there is a shot of a tractor doing spring field work. We might show it from seven different angles, prefacing the report with mandatory phrases such as "crop farmers have started concerted work..." The Finnish news program will only show a tractor if it is new and likely to increase labor productivity.

Here in Tallinn I was told that Finnish TV is quicker off the mark than our news programs when it comes to international affairs. There are virtually no newsreaders on the news programs. You see commentators and journalists, who inspire greater confidence.

The TV schedules are also well thought out. You can tell what will be shown on what day of the week and at what time without checking the newspapers.

For instance, on Mondays Finnish TV Channel 1 is bound to show a so-called "long" feature film--lasting around 2 hours--after 2220 hours. There are many series on different days--half-hour, hour-long, detective series, and music series. They do not show series on successive evenings as we do. They show them weekly, biweekly, or monthly. American series, as a rule. And, as a rule, the type known as "soap operas"--as glitzy as tinsel and just as superficial. When I was there--I spent 4 days in Tallinn--they showed the Swiss movie "Der schwarze Tanner," part one of "Les Miserables" (France) with Lino Ventura as Jean Valjean, and an episode of the Czechoslovak TV series "First Aid." Finnish newspapers and magazines publish movie schedules 6 months in advance. There are many movies. The aim of that is understandable--each channel wants to somehow attract attention to itself. In Finland, apart from the two channels already mentioned, there is a well-developed cable TV network: You can watch the 24-hour U.S. Worldnet programs, Swedish and French TV programs, the third Finnish channel (not everyone can pick it up in Tallinn, but some can) and our programs from Central TV and Estonian TV... Competition. You have to fight for viewers. That is understood in Finland.

And in Estonia too. I talked with Andrus Saar, head of the sociological service at the Estonian SSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting Computer Center. He added the results of research on children's programs to what I had already gleaned from watching Finnish programs. We have few such programs in comparison--cartoons, movies, and programs that foster courage, resourcefulness, and bravery in little boys, and elevated romantic sentiments in little girls...

The sociologists headed by Saar also studied the young audience. Estonians watch Finnish TV more than non-Estonians. Knowing the language plays a part. The Russian-speaking audience gravitates more toward Central TV programs. I was particularly interested in the section of the survey that answered the question of what the reason for Finnish TV's popularity is, what attracts people to it, and why our TV programs are sometimes so uncompetitive. People are attracted and drawn primarily to movies, cartoons, variety shows, and music programs. Incidentally, the variety shows on local television are more highly rated than those produced by Central TV. Or take the following assessment of new programs (1,313 people were polled):

Estonian TV--slow, scant, superficial, passive.

Central TV--official, clear, obtrusive, boring.

Finnish TV--lively, pacy, frank, interesting.

That is what young people say. But their opinion largely coincides with the opinion of older people. The conclusion drawn from the poll was that our TV programs will only be properly competitive when they beef up their content and take account of the needs of different social and age groups.

This is not the first year that sociologists have carried out research. A great deal has already been done with their help--the "Million Questions" program for children, "Spectacle Case" for the elderly, and "Youngsters' Afternoon Channel" for young people on Sundays... I also talked with Voldemar Lindstrom, Estonian TV's program director. He cited some more programs that interest Estonian viewers more than Finnish programs and movies. They are "Best Friend" and "Mickey's ABC" for children, the arts programs "Movie World" and "Television Review," and the economics program "Workaday Matters on Sunday." Every year Tallinn tries to update its programs, to think up and organize something new. If a program is watched by just 15 percent of the audience the alarm bells start ringing, and if less than 10 percent watch it the program must be canceled--it is outdated. It is a pity that Estonian TV's experience is not always taken into account at Central TV.

The main shortcoming, in Lindstrom's opinion, is the tardiness of news and the poor selection of movies. This problem, which is common to Estonian and Central TV, is supplemented by local problems--a shortage of highly skilled producers, journalists, presenters, and technicians. The sociologists studying the psychology of perception have no video recorders. They have to analyze programs straight off the screen--this is old-style sociology. People should not have to work like that.

...In the evenings I sat in front of the TV and started channel-hopping. No, I did not like everything the Finns had to offer. Their output provided more sustenance for the eyes than for the mind. That is their failing, their weakness. On 10 May I decided to draw up a sort of composite list for my evening's viewing. Many people in Tallinn do the same. This was how it turned out.

1800: International Panorama (Central TV Channel 1, Estonian TV. Finnish TV Channel 2 was showing an episode of the American series "The Adventures of Tom Sawyer and Huckleberry Finn").

1845: Cartoons (Central TV Channel 1).

1900: Soccer. Spartak versus Dinamo Kiev, second half. (Central TV Channel 2. Estonian TV was showing a program about a ballerina--Irina Kolpakova, people's artist of the USSR. Leningrad TV was showing the movie "Legally Married," but it had been on Central TV quite recently, so I did not watch it. Finnish TV Channel 1 was showing Sunday reports. Finnish TV Channel 2 was showing "Eureka," a children's program).

1945: The movie "Season of Peace in Paris" (Central TV Channel 1. But halfway through, my attention wandered and I switched over to Finnish TV Channel 1, where American cartoons were followed by the documentary "The Africans").

2100: "Vremya".

2130: Finnish TV news (broadcast simultaneously on the two channels and lasting 15 to 20 minutes).

2145: An episode of the American series "Golden Girls" (Finnish TV Channel 2. This turned out to be a very mediocre comedy. However, the movie "Ballad of the Trees and Roses" on Central TV Channel 2 was no better. So I started watching "Monitor" on Leningrad TV).

2210: The movie "Der schwarze Tanner" (Finnish TV Channel 2. This was tedious and slow-moving. I again switched over to "Monitor" and afterward watched "Play, Accordion!" on Central TV Channel 1).

2305: Football Review (Central TV Channel 1. Part one of "Les Miserables" had just started on Finnish TV Channel 1, but I had seen it at the movies).

2325: "Movie World" (Estonian TV. A discussion on Latvian documentary filmmakers. Very interesting. The program went on until 0100. Meanwhile, Central TV Channel 1 had started its traditional midnight programs for inhabitants of border areas. They were showing "The Heavenly Sloth" and a concert by Valeriy Leontyev. I could not stay awake for either of them).

Needless to say, this program listing is a subjective thing, and yours would probably have been somewhat different. But I think that sooner or later viewers in Kostroma and Ufa, Tbilisi and Tashkent, Ryazan and the Moscow suburb of Zagorsk will start thinking and deciding--just as Tallinn people do--what program they should watch on which of the five or six channels on offer. And I would very much like to think that when that day comes the workers at Central Television would have worthy and competitive programs ready. At the moment, unfortunately, that is not always the case. Even in comparison with the programs on Finnish TV.

/12858

CSO: 1800/676

SOCIOLOGIST DISCUSSES BOOKS ON LYSENKO ERA

PM081539 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 Jun 87 Morning Edition p 3

[Article by Doctor of Philosophical Sciences L. Ionin: "Liberation From Dogma. A Sociologist's Notes on a Topic Raised by Writers"]

[Text] Almost simultaneously--within a year--three works have appeared on the same theme: Two on the life and selfless struggle of genuine scientists against dogmatism in science. They are Vladimir Amlinskiy's book "Every Hour Will Be Justified... A Story About My Father" (MOSKOVSKIY RABOCHIY, 1986), Daniil Granin's story "The Bull" in NOVYY MIR (Nos 1-2, 1987), and Vladimir Dudintsev's novel "White Clothes" in NEVA (Nos 1-4, 1987).

I do not intend to write a review and assess the artistic merits of these very different books. They are interesting to me primarily as a sociopolitical phenomenon. The very theme has caused lines to form in libraries. The stamp of political pungency is so heavy that it is difficult to examine the underlying literary merits--as a springboard for the future.

But what does strike the eye at first reading is the fact that the works by Amlinskiy, Granin, and Dudintsev are biographies, lives, and not only biographies of heroes, but biographies of their eras.

...It is nearly four decades since the 1948 session of the All-Union V.I. Lenin Academy of Agricultural Sciences, which was the culmination of the struggle against "Weismannism-Morganism-Mendelism" and for an "advanced Michurinist dialectical materialist biology, whose banner is held aloft by people's academician T.D. Lysenko." "...Armed with Michurin's teaching, our Soviet biologists...routed the Morganists." I am citing the session minutes from the excerpts quoted in Amlinskiy's book. A kind of monument to belligerent ignorance and superstition, they were distributed in hundreds of thousands of copies as evidence of the victory of the Lysenkoists, but now they are evidence of their defeat.

The victims of the "fighters for Marxist biology" have been rehabilitated and have prevailed, generations of students have used their books in their studies, and scientific institutes bear their names. But for a long

time the situation remained ambiguous. The fine words about unwarranted persecution were not enough to reestablish the truth. That is why the theme is so topical today...

But perhaps the times are such that memoirs, reminiscences, and biographies, even subtly annotated ones, are not enough. It is a time of investigation. Yesterday there was a demand for revelations, today there is a demand for analysis.

The delicate, pastel prose of Amlinskiy's memoir of his father, a biology historian, and Granin's story, written with journalistic verve, about the life, suffering, and victory of the celebrated geneticist Timofeyev-Resovskiy are filled with accurately stated historical facts and sensible commentary. But it is the very potential, probably, of the biography genre that is limiting. In it the author is alone with the hero. As a means of investigating an era the novel is preferable, the genre used by Dudintsev--the novel is not directly associated with the writer's emotions and it encapsulates the stylistic diversity of life. The novel is a model of life and it is possible to see in it the way life "works."

What would happen, I wondered, if one were to break down the structure of the novel into chapters and paragraphs, and translate its images into the language of concepts? One would have a scholarly treatise on the theme "The Sociology of Dogmatism." How dogma arises and takes shape, what it lives off and feeds on, how it establishes itself as a true, unique, and finite entity, and what it brings to society and to science. It is a novel about biologists, but not, of course, for biologists alone. Dudintsev's artistic theme is a social theme.

Dogma is based--so it was for millennia, so it is now--on specific aims and motives: Lust for power, protection of status, fear of progress. Dogma is a fait accompli which does not contemplate development and new beginnings. It is a received idea which fancies that no other ideas are necessary. The possessor of dogma is the proclaimer of the ultimate truth.

The dogmatist cannot exist without circumscribing knowledge. But life does not behave like that, it does not recognize blind alleys. So dogma sooner or later comes into conflict with the real development of knowledge. And war ensues...

Sometimes dogma succeeds in battles between dogma and knowledge. But it is not a complete success, it is never a complete success. All the same... How and why does dogma win, win despite the facts, despite common sense?

First of all one must tackle a fundamental question: Can there be a special "Marxist, socialist biology"? The self-styled "people's academicians" claimed: There can. More: It exists. It was the nucleus of the dogma, its central meaning.

In fact, when applied to natural science, which studies nature and its laws, such pseudophilosophical definitions are meaningless. Scientific

propositions can be true or false, theories can be correct or wrong. As for the Lysenkoists, in denying the existence of the mechanism of heredity, they were denying an objective fact. The dogma was based on an error. An ill-intentioned error on the part of those who used the dogma as a weapon of power, and merely a "convenient" error for those who tended to agree, who would always say yes, or who were simply not abreast of scientific debate.

The convenience factor was obvious. After all, Lysenkoist science was as basic as could be. It did not require years of observation, delicate experiments, and profound thought. It could be assimilated in its entirety at one sitting. And, most important of all, it lacked all the "foreign words"--mitochondria, polyploidy, and so on--which, as the novel splendidly demonstrates, made the audience mock the scholastic wisdom of the "Weismann-Morganists."

Moreover, dogmatic science created the illusion that anything could be easily achieved and that nature was totally controlled by the human will. It was an atmosphere of the miraculous, to which the faint-hearted are so prone and which has always suited ignorant people. But the miracles of Lysenkoist-Ryadnoist science fitted into this atmosphere beautifully. Spring crops were "transformed" into winter crops, hornbeam into hazel, birch into alder, and childlike explanations were sufficient... And it must also be borne in mind that true scientists do not issue advances, yet the Lysenkoists promised rapid prosperity. The "branch-eared wheat" promised to transform the kolkhoz fields and the tormented land (it was the postwar period) was waiting for this miraculous deliverance.

"Just imagine," Pososhkov, an opponent, said of Kasyan Ryadno, "keeping going for 20 years on the same promises and quotations..." For all his outward simplicity the "people's academician" was very familiar with quotations from the classic works. But making quotations was by no means some harmless, incidental facet of his makeup.

A paradoxical situation is it not? Dialectics used as an instrument of dogmatism. But it was only a parody of dialectics, a collection of phrases that sounded like dialectics--the dogmatist's catechesis. "Spasmodicity," "conversion of quantity into quality," and so forth formed part of the symbol of truth. Dialectics were used to establish dogma which one was not permitted to doubt.

The totally unquestioning faith opened the door to evil. Identifying science with dogmatism, Kasyan drew an entirely consistent conclusion. He called it the "transfer to the ideological plane" or "transfer to the political plane." "Weismannist-Morganist" science does not accord with his doctrine? Therefore it is antidialectical. Therefore it is an anti-Marxist and antisocialist science. Therefore it is the result of intrigues and sabotage...

"What are all these sallies of yours, these intrigues and extraordinary happenings?" one of the characters in the novel remarked. But all these

"sallies" and "intrigues" are means of "transferring" the scientific debate to the ideological or political plane, methods of strengthening the position of people who are remote from science, but who for various reasons have gained the helm of science. As a result honest and dedicated scientists encountered a hail of unheard-of charges and the study of genetics was identified with betrayal of the homeland.

That was the price of the "people's academicians'" quotations. This whole mechanism is clearly delineated by Dudintsev.

We said that the novelistic model of life is better than the biographical narrative, that it helps one understand how the dogma "operates." But a doubt may arise: Is the dogmatic logic correctly stated, has it not been laid on too thick? In this case there is no substitute for biographies giving an honest and complete account of real-life quirks of fate. So the almost simultaneous publication of the three above-mentioned books, which complement one another, is an unexpected, unplanned piece of luck.

The heroes' fates are different, the books themselves are different. And, of course, they are not the last word on the subject. There remains a considerable amount of research--artistic and scientific--to be done into our past. In fact, the study of dogmatism and dissection of Lysenkoism and other similar "episodes" is essential, no matter how unpleasant it may be.

Certain people basically do not want to dig over the past. But it is being done not to pass judgment on the dead, but to form a judgment of the living. The more we know about what sustained dogma in the past, the surer and truer will be our judgment of the present and our plans for the future. To learn nothing from these tragic examples is to make the same mistake again and again.

I was thinking about this once as I opened the latest issue of SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA: Professor I. Seleznev of the Philosophy Department at the Kuban Agricultural Institute was propagandizing the use of philosophy in agricultural work. It would be useful, he wrote, for grain growers to know the "dialectics of the elementary, particular, and general when selecting the technique for growing winter wheat." Moreover, philosophy (he is after all a professor of philosophy, not a chemist, biologist, or economist...) is supposed to explain to agronomists and specialists the "reasons why the potential for achieving big harvests has not been realized." But they have all become accustomed to talking about details, about transport, about herbicides, the philosopher complains, and he concludes: Grain growers "must learn dialectics."

Certainly they must. But what one must not do is vulgarize dialectics and use general formulas in attempting to resolve all the specific questions of life. Philosophy has its own theoretical and philosophical tasks. The experts in the universal science--as history has taught us, although, evidently we have not learned it yet--have successfully gathered

only a harvest of plaudits, awards, and prizes. "...I have such talent," the now dismissed "people's academician" announced in the novel's epilogue. "I am a pure theoretician. A dialectician. Induction and deduction--that is my element. And I have had success! What success!..."

We know the price of this success. But the facts have to be faced--it is a very important lesson of past decades.

The books by Amilinskiy, Granin, and Dudintsev teach scientific honesty, a rigorous approach to research, and the skill of impartial analysis, which is dogma's worst enemy.

/12858

CSO: 1800/677

FALSE HEALER TRIED, CONVICTED

Dushanbe KOMMUNIST TADZHIKISTANA in Russian 13 Feb 87 p 3

[Article by TadzhikTA correspondent A. Steyger under the rubric "From the Hall of Justice": "According to the 'Holy' Formula"]

[Text] The active "medical" activity of Alikhon Khamidov, a former watchman at the Leninabadskiy shoe factory No 2, ended with five years imprisonment and the confiscation of his property. The court called his "healing" practice swindling with the goal of making a profit.

The condemned Khalimodov's trip to the bench began long ago. Having suffered a setback in the commercial trade field, the graduate of Tadzhikistan state university "requalified himself" as a "healer" declaring his home a holy place and himself a deputy of Allah on earth. He "transformed" ordinary drinking water into holy water, a kulcha (flat bread)--into a miracle-working medicine, by a inscription.

From what didn't Khalimodov cure the gullible! From heart and nerve ailments, from insomnia, from infertility. He would read a prayer, give them a little water to drink, order them to eat the kulcha, tie a scarf in a knot--bound by his holy hands--for the night, and there you have the cure!

Well, and for his labors? Something more substantial was offered for this. At each visit, and there had to be seven of them, each person, out of principle, had to bring as remuneration what he could. This "holy" formula materialized as sugar, flour, lengths of silk, and banknotes. A wealthy person could bring 50 or 100 rubles--Alikhon did not object. In the case of success, the patient was ordered to bring poultry to the "holy" court to be offered like a sacrificial lamb.

During a search of the "holy" man's place, 2,997 lengths of silk were found, along with huge sums of money, bonds, tape recorders, and precious coins.

As the court, presided over by Khayrullo Fayzullaev, explained, the "healer" received the most profit for curing infertility. Young women who had just gotten married, put under pressure by their husbands and mothers-in-law, planned pilgrimages to the "holy" place; a few of them did not even try to consult with doctors or have an examination.

"Witness S., who advised you to take the advice of the accused?"

"My mother-in-law...."

"How did the accused treat you?"

"He gave me water to drink from a tea-bowl, read a prayer, wrote some words in black ink on a flat cake, ordered me to eat it at home, and then come again."

In the course of the investigation at the shoe factory where Khamidov worked, a meeting was held. The collective assessed the actions of the swindler on principle, and also wrote about him to the court.

But here is a question: Why did no one from the administration become interested earlier in the fact that a man with higher education decided to work as a watchman?

The court submitted a private recommendation concerning the neighborhood soviet "May 1," on whose territory the "holy" activity flourished. In the gorispolkom this neighborhood soviet is considered one of the best in the city. As proof, it has a club, and gives lectures on medical and anti-religious themes. Recently the neighborhood soviet even initiated the creation of a sobriety zone in the residential area.

It was claimed that the members of the neighborhood soviet went to each house, each family, introduced new ceremonies, and conducting educational work. With such activity it is difficult to believe that they did not know about the existence of the swindler who was profiteering from people's religious feelings and ignorance.

By the way, among these "patients" were people with secondary education and a Komsomol card in their pockets. They knew, of course, but they did not give it any special significance. Unfortunately, the court did not submit a private recommendation concerning a few other city organizations. For example, concerning the city health department, the gorkom of the Komsomol, or the gorispolkom. The "holy" place is located about five minutes from these solid organizations; it is even visible from the office windows. Not one of their representatives wished to come to court.

The swindler received what he deserved. But the fact of the pilgrimage to the "holy" place is not ordinary. It speaks of the fact that in those places we are idle, at best, pseudo-holy workers are operating, and at worst--religious and medical swindlers, "specialists" in unearned income.

13174/12859
CSO: 1830/458

TASS ANSWERS U.S. 'CLAIMS' ON GROWTH OF ROCK MUSIC

LD291257 Moscow TASS in English 0936 GMT 29 May 87

[Text] Moscow, 29 May (TASS)--By TASS correspondent Aleksandr Vladimirov:

Some American journalists describe "the Soviet authorities' more than liberal attitude to rock music" as almost the major aspect of the restructuring drive in the USSR.

The CBS TV network claims that the authorities intend to "let off young people's social steam" with the help of rock music and that this is the reason behind the growth in the number of rock groups in the Soviet Union.

The explanation for this growth, however, is much simpler. Young people like modern music, including rock music, and make it their pursuit.

To get fresh proof of this simple truth, I went to Pushkin Square in downtown Moscow, where young people usually meet. On the square I saw a placard inviting all those wishing to Moscow's "Rock Laboratory". There were quite a few young people around me. I asked one what he thought of the CBS's claims about "letting off social steam" in that laboratory, which caught lovers of rock music in adroitly spread "rock nets".

He looked at me as if I were a madman.

Young people come to the Moscow Rock Laboratory to engage in their favourite pursuit. Similar rock clubs appear in other Soviet cities, too.

Soviet rock music has no undercurrents. Popular with a considerable part of young people here, it is making its way with success.

"The Moscow Rock Laboratory already unites about 100 amateur groups", the laboratory's leader Olga Opryatnaya said.

"It helps musicians stage concerts before large audiences and makes recordings. The laboratory works on the self-funding principle, and it has opportunities for earning enough money to buy equipment and help the more talented groups with publicity".

/12858

CSO: 1812/230

JURIST DISCUSSES CONCEPT OF PRESUMPTION OF INNOCENCE

Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian No 16, 15 Apr 87 p 11

[Discussion between Olga Chaykovskaya, writer, and Professor Grigoriy Zakharovich Anashkin, doctor of juridical sciences, under the rubric "Ethics and the Law": "False Accusation? I Don't Believe It"; first two paragraphs are source introduction]

[Text] Why is there no term "presumption of innocence" in our law, and should it be introduced? Does everyone understand the significance of this principle itself? A jurist and a writer talk about this.

LITERATURNAYA GAZETA has run several items recently on important problems of the legal system (I. Gamayunov's talks with doctor of juridical sciences A. Yakovlev in the 24 September 1986 issue, A. Vaksberg's remarks from the plenum of the USSR Supreme Court, and others). There has been discussion of the most important legal guarantees, about how breakdowns in the legal system occur, and about glasnost in the work of the system. Most importantly, the question of the need for fundamental transformations in the activity of court organs has been raised. Today we feature writer O. Chaykovskaya and doctor of juridical sciences and professor G. Anashkin. The scholar's opinion is especially interesting because he has many years of practical court experience behind him.

[Chaykovskaya] I do not think the history of ethical and legal thought knows any more tragic fate than the fate of the great principle of presumption of innocence. Noble, mighty people formulated it over the course of centuries. It is obviously just and unquestionably essential to any society and to every person. It is at the foundation of criminal procedure in all civilized countries, and all the same it is invariably rejected in mass consciousness. It would seem to be clear that the citizen must be protected by solid legal armor against malicious suspicion, false accusation, and illegality--but no! Even in the consciousness of lawyers this principle does not fit easily; some speak of it with scorn, while others appear to recognize it but by their actions it is clear that in fact they reject it. Have you had occasion to run into this kind of dangerous phenomenon?

[Anashkin] Yes, there is such a phenomenon. It is indeed dangerous, and its causes are complex. After all, for many centuries of human history the

presumption of guilt operated and was deadly to any who fell under suspicion. For many reasons these tendencies have proved persistent. After all, even in our country this crucial, progressive institution which has been taken in the service of socialism, was once declared to be a bourgeois principle!

[Chaykovskaya] And how does our law treat this problem?

[Anashkin] The actual term "presumption of innocence" is not used in Soviet law at the present time, but the content of this principle is fairly clearly revealed in the Fundamentals of Criminal Procedure, the criminal procedure codes of the Union republics, the Basic Law of the country, and the decree of the plenum of the USSR Supreme Court. It is this decree that gives a statement that can be considered a definition of the presumption of innocence: "The accused (defendant) is considered innocent until his guilt is proven in the manner provided by law and determined by a verdict of the court that has taken legal effect." Article 160 of the USSR Constitution reads: "No one can be found guilty of committing a crime or made subject to criminal punishment except according to a verdict of the court and in accordance with the law." The decree of the plenum of the USSR Supreme Court observes: all unresolved contradictions are interpreted in favor of the accused (defendant). And finally, one of the most important guarantees of compliance with the principle of the presumption of innocence is the accused's right to defense, which is affirmed by Article 156 of the USSR Constitution. So the principle of the presumption of innocence lies at the foundation of our criminal procedure.

[Chaykovskaya] But why is it that the actual term "presumption of innocence" is not found in our law, and shouldn't it be introduced?

[Anashkin] I think that it would be advisable to provide for it in new procedural law, which is not that far off. At the present time Soviet citizens do not have a clear-cut attitude toward the presumption of innocence, as is illustrated, for example, by the results of a study by professors A. R. Ratinov and G. Kh. Yefremova. Their questionnaire included this question: "What would be fair, to convict or acquit a defendant, where the court has doubt about his guilt and it is not possible to receive additional evidence?" More than two-thirds of the respondents had difficulty answering, and one out of seven of the remaining ones said "Convict."

[Chaykovskaya] It would be interesting to know what that seventh one would say if he himself were convicted on the basis of doubtful evidence.

[Anashkin] And the right of the accused to a defense is by no means universally understood. There is a certain "procedural nihilism" in society; the repressive aspect of the law is more important than the guaranteed aspect for the mass consciousness. And incidentally, legal indoctrination concentrates more attention on the punitive aspect of the law than on the guaranteed aspect.

[Chaykovskaya] What about legal nihilism in the legal consciousness of a lawyer?

[Anashkin] Incidentally, this is a factor that hinders the employees of court organs from correctly understanding the principle of the presumption of innocence--our law is not entirely consistent in this respect. Thus, there are other norms that operate alongside the immutable legal requirement that only the court has the right to find a citizen guilty. A person can be found guilty, without being subject to punishment, without the court too, for example when a case is stopped because the statute of limitations has run out or there has been an amnesty; a person found guilty may be released on bail, brought to administrative accountability, or his case may be turned over to the comrades court or commission on the affairs of minors. In this case the decision on his guilt is not made by the court, but by the investigator and procurator, which is not allowed because it does not conform with the principles of Article 160 of the Constitution. No one but the court has the right to find a citizen guilty.

[Chaykovskaya] Misunderstanding of the principle of the presumption of innocence by society and especially by lawyers has a tragic effect on people's fates.

[Anashkin] No question about that.

[Chaykovskaya] Now I would like to consider our problem with a specific court case. I have already told this story in the press (the article "Word of Honor") and now I would like to look at it again, but this time together with you, a lawyer. It is a complex, confused story that took place in three places that are very remote from each other--Biryulevo, Elektrostal, and Kuzminki. The crime was committed in Biryulevo. The two criminals dragged a young woman into an abandoned, burnt-out building. The victim later gave a detailed description of the criminals, and said that one called the other Sergey.

Ira L., who was a 13-year-old girl at that time, lives in Biryulevo too. And in Kuzminki there are two young men, Sergey Losev (who had just returned from a colony, where he was sent as a boy) and Vladimir Skorodumov. These three, young Ira and the two young men, met by accident in Elektrostal. The boys from Kuzminki were visiting, noticed the little girl there in passing but paid no attention to her because of her age, spent an hour so so, and returned home to Kuzminki, where they were seen all that evening (there are many witnesses to that). Ira stayed on as a guest of her girlfriend for several more days. But she remembered the young men very well and, upon returning home, told her mother that there had been a couple of young guys in Elektrostal, one called Sergey and the other with the nickname of "Chief."

The confusion begins at the point where Ira's mother took her to the militia, for some reason telling her beforehand that she, Ira's mother, had been robbed by two young men with those very names, Sergey and Chief. What made this woman lie; why did she set her daughter against strangers? Why did she drag her to the militia? However, her close friend, militia employee Vyacheslav Filippov was the very one who was conducting the inquiry into the crime in the burnt-out building. Nikiforov, deputy head of criminal investigation of the 137th militia department, interrogated the little girl (without a pedagog present) and she testified that the young men did not go home that night, they

went to Biryulevo, to accompany her, because she, Ira, did not stay and spend the night in Elektrostal. This interrogation was on 1 April 1981, and on 7 April the boys were arrested. They say that they were interrogated all night (from Losev's testimony: "They broke my nose and cut open my lip. They took me into the room with the bath to wash the blood off my face") and by morning they had both "sincerely confessed" to the crime in Biryulevo. It is confused, silly, and contradictory, but still they confessed. The next day, as soon as procurator's investigator Ivanova arrived, they renounced their "confessions"; Ivanova wrote this in the record of the interrogation, but indicated the date of their arrest as 24 hours later, so that the night between 7 and 8 April, the frightening night of their "confessions," disappeared into thin air. And here is what I want to ask: is it normal for a person to find himself alone with an investigator, before whom he is essentially helpless--the investigator has the experience, professional training, and finally, of course, power itself. Sergey Losev says that his face was smashed up, but this is really a case where "his soul was all bloody," and you can't wash that off in the bathroom.

[Anashkin] Well, there is nothing more to say. This is simply a criminal act that needs to be investigated.

[Chaykovskaya] No, Grigoriy Zakharovich, let's listen closely to Losev's words. Healthy men beat up a helpless boy, and what is more, they do it in performance of their service duties. Does this mean it is in the name of the government? Then they are hitting right at the heart of our legal system! Where do we have any guarantees that make such a thing impossible?

[Anashkin] There is a problem here. The right to defense should be more fully realized. According to the Constitution the accused has the right to a defense. And I stress that we are talking about an accused, not a defendant. The right to a defense assumes also the right to a defense attorney, in my opinion from the moment of incarceration and presentation of the charges. And here is what is notable. There was a time in our country, after the victory of the October Revolution until the start of the civil war and intervention, when defense attorneys were allowed to take part in criminal cases in the stage of preliminary investigation after the accused was formally charged -- see Decrees on the Court Nos 1 and 2 and the 25 November 1918 Statute on the Peoples Court of the RSFSR (notice the date!). And now I will answer your question: the participation of an attorney in the preliminary investigation would have made it impossible for the investigator to pressure the person under investigation. The attorney should take a most active part in the preliminary investigation, submit petitions, attend interrogations, and participate in investigative actions. There should be more competition among the investigator, the procurator, and the attorney. Incidentally, the participation of the attorney in the preliminary investigation will be a kind of additional supervision of the investigation...well, maybe monitoring if not supervision.

[Chaykovskaya] That is exactly the question I wanted to move to, supervision of the investigation. In the case of the Kuzminki boys there were many flagrant violations of the law. I didn't list anywhere near all of them. Why weren't they noticed by procuratorial supervision?

[Anashkin] Supervision of investigation today, as we know, is done by the procurator's office, and at the same time the investigation is part of the procuratorial system. This co-existence has been sharply criticized a number of times. Two entirely different functions, conduct of the investigation and supervision of its legality, cannot be concentrated in a single department, the procurator's office. An intolerable situation arises where the procurator is really supervising himself. In just the same way the investigation of cases and operational search activities should not be concentrated at MVD [Ministry of Internal Affairs] organs. We need to form an Investigative Administration with organs in the local areas; ideally it would be attached to the Council of Ministers. Incidentally, after the formation of the procurator's office in 1922 and until the 1930's our investigators were independent procedural figures attached to the courts. This practice proved itself, and it would be useful to return to it at a higher qualitative level.

[Chaykovskaya] The case which we are considering went to court.

[Anashkin] Yes, the court is where the principle of the presumption of innocence should be consistently followed. Many cases are very complex and confused. Judicial errors are fairly subjected to criticism in the newspapers, including LITERATURNAYA GAZETA, but they are often handled in a very simplified way, and come to a hurried conclusion that the judge should be punished. But tell me, can you really punish a doctor who has examined the patient in good conscience and made a mistaken diagnosis? The judge's freedom of internal conviction is an essential condition for implementing justice.

[Chaykovskaya] Well then, let's look at how the "conscientious examination" was made in this case and how the "diagnosis was reached." The court, chaired by Judge Stepanova, was where the presumption of innocence raged! No matter what the young men said, they were not believed (they were supposedly trying to get out of it); the only thing the court believed was their confessions," given on the night between 7 and 8 April. Neither did they believe the witnesses who had seen the young men in Kuzminki on that fatal evening (they were supposedly protecting them). The girl with whom Ira spent the night did not actually see the guys herself; she had no reason to protect anyone; no matter, they said, she was protecting them too! You say doubts go in favor of the defendant? There was no doubt at all! The judges believed the testimony of Ira L., which she gave to the militia. But as a matter of fact, in court Ira firmly denied this testimony! She didn't simply deny it; she told how her mother led her to the militia, and who talked to her there and how. What pressure this little girl was under! Probably her only hope was for the judges to understand her. No way! Judge Stepanova demanded just one thing, that Ira affirm her earlier testimony. The attorneys listed all the violations of the law allowed in the case--Stepanova (a lawyer and a judge!) completely ignored them. What about the freedom of the judge's internal conviction here?

[Anashkin] Of course, we must not confuse lack of objectivity with this freedom.

[Chaykovskaya] Once again, once again, what can we do to make such arbitrary action impossible?

[Anashkin] Both theory and practice show that one of the main guarantees of a just verdict is the collective quality of the court. The participation of peoples assessors is one of the important principles of Soviet trial practice. And its reserves have not been exhausted. I wrote about that in LITERATURNAYA GAZETA way back in 1972. Do you remember?

[Chaykovskaya] I certainly do! At that time you were a daring and almost unique voice.

[Anashkin] Today all cases, simple and complex, are heard initially by a judge and two peoples assessors. Many scholarly and practical people reasonably propose to establish differentiated court bodies depending on the nature and complexity of the cases. Many civil cases would be decided by the judge alone. For other cases it is advisable to keep the existing system (judge and two assessors). But for the more complex cases, especially those where the death penalty is possible, the composition of the court must be increased to at least five persons: two judges and three assessors. This kind of structure will strengthen legal guarantees and reduce the number of errors. Incidentally, in this matter too the legislation of the first years of Soviet power envisioned broader composition of the court for serious crimes (six regular assessors and one judge) than we do today. But now a paradoxical, impossible situation has arisen! Our country has no other collective body consisting of three people (the ispolkoms of Soviets, bureaus of party and other organizations consist of a minimum of 5-7 persons) except the court! And a death sentence can be given by just three persons, even two (a majority is sufficient). Is a three-person court more flexible? It is also more controllable. And it must be made more independent.

[Chaykovskaya] Of course, to make "telephone law" impossible. But let's get back to our case. The guilty verdict was set aside and a second court (chaired by Judge Fursova) again delivered a guilty verdict. The case was maintained on the testimony of the little girl, who sometimes would repeat it and sometimes deny it. Meanwhile the young men were in jail. And in this connection, of course, we face the question of the right to arrest and the time that one can be kept incarcerated. Such a period is set by law, but there is one factor here...

[Anashkov] I think that in general incarceration as a preventive measure should be used only in the most exceptional situations.

[Chaykovskaya] Of course. And wouldn't it be better if the court decided the question of arrest? Especially when detention and arrest are often used by investigative employees as a means of psychological pressure on the accused, to take him out of his usual setting, to disorient him. But I am talking here about time periods. When the case is before the court the time of incarceration is not counted--the person sits in jail and his jail time is apparently stopped; the count starts again when the file returns for the inquiry; and then, after a quick inquiry, it is sent again to the court (some cases go back and forth several times) and again it is investigative time (if it is hard to be in jail, I would think it would be completely intolerable to

have time periods stopping in this way). So it turns out that a person, an innocent person in the eyes of the law and possibly, in fact, guilty of nothing at all, sits in jail for months, or even years.

[Anashkin] With a guilty verdict all this time is counted as the assigned criminal penalty. When a person is rehabilitated he is paid an appropriate wage for this time. That is fair.

[Chaykovskaya] It's not much, Grigoriy Zakharovich. You can't make up for days (and months and years!) lost with wages.

[Anashkin] Well, what if we are talking about a murderer who could commit another crime?

[Chaykovskaya] For such cases exceptions can be made that do not upset the rules. Not one day more than the law stipulates--I am convinced of that. Anyway, the time passed and the young men were in jail; their youth passed in jail. First Ira would testify ("they accompanied me"), then she would passionately deny it ("I am ruining innocent people!"). The fourth court, chaired by B. Konyagin (let me repeat, I am firmly convinced he is one of the best judges in Moscow) acquitted them. In my article I, of course, raised the question of the responsibility of those who violated the law. The article came out on 16 April 1986, and on 15 May the editors received a letter from the Moscow procurator's office which said that the case of Losev and Skorodumov had been "reopened." The verdict of acquittal, a substantiated, powerful decision and the fruit of highly professional work, was set aside on the grounds of newly discovered circumstances. You will ask what newly discovered circumstances compelled the Moscow City Court to set aside the verdict. I don't know, Grigoriy Zakharovich, if we should laugh or cry. Ira L.--one week after the appearance of the article!--again stated that the boys had accompanied her!

[Anashkin] Well, this is a clear attempt to illegally set aside a lawful verdict of acquittal. Yes, according to Article 384 of the RSFSR Code of Criminal Procedure a criminal case can be reopened on the grounds of newly discovered circumstances which were not known to the court in its verdict order. Naturally, the latest change in Ira's testimony is not such a circumstance.

[Chaykovskaya] But if the newly discovered circumstance is perjury, it should be determined by a verdict of the court, shouldn't it?

[Anashkin] Absolutely. In principle this case should have gone like this: Ira L., because she gave such testimony and was above the age of 16, should have been tried for perjury and have a court determination. Only then would it be possible to raise the question of reviewing the case.

[Chaykovskaya] Can it be that the city procurator's office did not know that? But listen, how do you think I felt to read this letter. "Your article brought disaster for us,"--this was the mothers of Losev and Skorodumov writing. "It has all started again, only even worse. A new investigation is underway, they are summoning those people who have testified to our sons' alibis all this

time, demanding that they renounce their testimony, and threatening to arrest them. So we decided to ask you, dear editor, how has glasnost turned out for us?" And here, Grigoriy Zakharovich, you want to die from shame! The newly reopened case was again finally stopped, which was reported to LITERATURNAYA GAZETA by the Moscow procurator's office. In this response they said that the "instances of violation of legality by procurator's and investigative employees" were condemned at a special session, after which "the guilty persons were held to disciplinary accountability by order of the city procurator." Don't you think that you and I, right now, right in the newspaper, should call on RSFSR procurator S. A. Yemelyanov to protest the order of the presidium of the Moscow City Court which set aside the verdict of acquittal and ask them to restore it to force?

[Anashkin] That would be reasonable.

[Chaykovskaya] And now I will amaze you. After my article the editors received a letter signed by Judges Stepanova and Fursova in which they wrote that the verdict of the court chaired by B. Komyagin acquitted Losev and Skorodumov only because their crimes had not been competely proven. How do you like that statement in the mouth of a jurist? This means that either both judges, excuse the expression, take us for fools and think that we don't understand the meaning of the formula for a verdict of acquittal or they themselves do not understand it. And they have been deciding people's fates for many years! After all, the formula is clear to any lawyer--acquit for failure to prove; if guilt is not proven, that proves innocence. This means complete acquittal, full rehabilitation. How could experienced judges come out with such a statement?

[Anashkin] I don't understand either. Acquittal for failure to prove is, of course, full acquittal.

[Chaykovskaya] You see what dangerous disarray you and I have found in the heads of certain jurists--and how clearly the direct link between misunderstanding of the principle of presumption of innocence and illegality in practice can be traced.

[Anashkin] This principle should not only be presented in detail in VUZ curricula and be a subject of careful study at law schools; it should be introduced into the general school program. This principle goes far beyond the framework of the criminal process. It is a guarantee against premature organizational conclusions by the administration...

[Chaykovskaya] No matter what area of human relations you take, from family to production. Any slander, any accusation-- I don't believe it! I don't believe it until I receive irrefutable proof. That is the only possible shield against suspicion, slander, and evil passions, the only correct posture in life. That is a reliable defense against a menacing social danger like illegality.

[Anashkin] I am an optimist and I am deeply convinced: the revolutionary transformations being carried out in the country today will have a beneficial impact on the activity of court organs too. The literal meaning of the borrowed word "yustitsiya" is the same as the Russian "pravosudiye" or "spravedlivost" [justice]. Our time is a time in which the principles and norms of social justice are being established.

WORK OF PROSECUTION ORGANS' INVESTIGATION SERVICE CRITICIZED

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 Apr 87 P 3

[Article by B. Piskarev, procurator-criminal law specialist, Magadan Oblast, under the rubric: "Tracking the Juridical Dialogues": "The Investigator on Investigation"]

[Text] For a long time investigators have been written about in two instances: when they successfully disclose a crime or when they flub a job and violate the law in the bargain. No one yet has thought to write about the fact that procurator's investigators investigate tens if not hundreds of thousands of cases, to write about the people through whose hands these thousands of cases of immeasurable pain, suffering, and fury pass. Deliberately setting aside the extremes (gifted and sloppy work), I want to share some ideas about the average statistical investigator. These thoughts are imbued with "legal dialogue" and "what is behind the numbers."

People think that anyone who has received general legal training can become an investigator. As a result many people come to the position accidentally, including inspired idealists full of detective movies and novels. The students do not receive any special investigative training at VUZes. The fact that there is a formal specialization does not solve the problem at all. This applies particularly to the extension study system (VYuZI [All-Union Legal Extension Institute]). Having spent many years teaching criminal law science and forensic psychology in this institute on a combined-job basis, I can state that the bitter joke about the similarity between education by extension and eating by extension has a real foundation.

The investigator has the lowest position in the procurator's office. It is used to frighten people ("Demote all the way to investigator"). Many of our employees consider it an inevitable, but not very desirable step on the service ladder. An elementary analysis of our disciplinary practices shows that investigators receive reprimands much more often, thereby statistically confirming the "dangerous" nature of this position.

The investigator's work is usually evaluated not by what was done, but by what was written. Moreover, everyone who has a higher position has the right to evaluate his work. And the authority of the judges means nothing here: it is

assumed that anyone who has ever paged through a criminal file can figure out investigating.

It is very rare for the evaluation of an event, for various reasons, to be complicated and arouse disputes, for a case to go through many levels, have verdicts given and reversed, and finally, have the case dismissed. One would hardly think that the little investigator could be blamed for what happened if silver-haired people with substantial work experience also got mixed up. One would hardly think so, but the investigator's name will be first on the list of responsible parties, and he will receive the harshest punishment.

The law defines the rights and duties of the investigator fairly clearly. Any deviation from the law by the investigator is firmly stopped, and there would be no sense to complain about this. But what about his rights? That's the problem. He invites citizens to witness a search and they refuse. He summons witnesses and they do not appear. He needs to interrogate a high-ranking official, and is told: "No way!" He orders an audit, and months pass without it being done. He needs to have an expert examination, but such studies are not done in the oblast, to say nothing of the rayon. He goes to another oblast, and they won't help him there. He goes to a third, and they tell him to wait in line. And all of this, you understand, must be done within legally-provided time periods. And he has up to 10 or more cases in process at once.

Witnesses and victims change their testimony in court and go unpunished. Defendants use lies and slander as a means of defense and sling mud at the investigator with impunity, knowing that he has no way to defend himself publicly. Think about it: how can he exercise or defend his rights? Raise his voice or stamp his feet? He cannot. Detain, arrest? What are you doing? Write complaints? It is unproductive and humiliating. So what happens is that the investigator's duties are fully realized, and his rights are only on paper.

The scientific-technical revolution, making major turning points in technology and thinking, has also affected the investigation, but in a kind of indirect way. Photographs, movies, videotapes, tape recorders, new types of expert analyses. All these things have become established in investigation practice; they have become commonly known, taken for granted, and mandatory. This means that the investigator has more duties. But the technical equipment available has remained as it was 25 years ago. The investigator today (and this is at best!) has an ordinary camera that passes from hand to hand, a home tape recorder that schoolchildren would be ashamed to be seen with, and the badge of shame--the investigator's briefcase with its obviously overextended service life but still not worn out.

While calling intensively for the use of technical equipment in investigation, for some reason we have forgotten elementary questions of organizing the investigator's labor. For example, he desperately needs a typewriter, but many investigators have to scratch away with pens. More than a third of the investigator's time goes for purely technical work. It is not uncomfortable, it is simply disgraceful to say that skilled employees spend many hours and days putting sheets of papers in filing machines (conductors) of the most

inconceivable designs, punching holes, drilling, sewing, compiling inventories, numbering pages, and so on and so forth. And what are they to do if documents have to be copied, reproduced?

The reader of these lines should wonder: aren't I laying it on a little thick? After all, investigators are doing their work!

Well, in the first place I am not laying it on thick; in fact, for various reasons I am not even mentioning many things. In the second place, the investigation, while it is a crucial sector of the activity of the procurator's office, at the same time remains its weak link. As for the investigators themselves, they are simply fleeing. According to my figures, one out of three young investigators leaves investigation work.

While I do not claim to give a complete, unambiguous, and indisputable picture, I will risk making a few suggestions.

Above all, the profession of investigator must be considered a completely independent specialization, based on the principle that every investigator must be a lawyer, but not every lawyer can become an investigator. Vocational selection and testing for suitability for this work, just like professional training, are hardly possible today without practical activity. For this reason it seems that a person who wants to be an investigator should work for a certain time as an assistant to an investigator.

The number of women investigators is increasing. Is this reasonable? No matter what we would like, this is not women's work.

The utilization of technical means and scientific advances in investigation should be achieved not by adding to the investigator's workload, but by setting up specialized services. The investigator should not, simply does not have the right to waste time on the use of technical equipment and searching for specialists, auditors, and experts. His job is to carry out the investigation as quickly, completely, and accurately as possible.

In recent years there has been a marked increase in the volume of material in criminal files. The simplest cases have begun to "bloat up." In many cases the materials of the criminal file are literally stuffed with a mass of unnecessary documents. Pages and pages of orders and expert findings with frequent repetition and insignificant details pollute the investigative work and "bury" the useful information. The size of the file has become a kind of symbol of the strength of the investigation, but in fact a large file often conceals plain sloppy work and a primitive effort to hide shortcomings in the quality of work behind the quantity of unnecessary papers.

I would like these remarks to be understood not only as the desire of a professional to draw public attention to the complexities of his work, but also as sincere concern for the millions of our citizens who, by the will of fate, will have not-very-pleasant encounters with the investigator.

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MOSCOW TV DISCUSSES ALCOHOL, DRUG ADDICTION

LD270320 [Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1000 GMT on 24 May broadcasts its 45-minute weekly health program, this week devoted to alcohol and drug addiction. The program is moderated by Yuliya Vasilyevna Belyanchikova, and along with her in the studio are Gennadiy Aleksandrovich Alekseyev, deputy chief of the Criminal Investigation Main Administration of the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs; and V.F. Yegorov, chief of the Narcology Administration of the USSR Health Ministry.

The program begins by showing excerpts of a press conference given on an unspecified date by USSR Health Minister Yevgeniy Ivanovich Chazov and other health officials interspersed with footage of alcoholics recounting details of their involvement with alcohol and the ensuing consequences.

Addressing the press conference, Chazov says: "We are now putting forward the basic principle of creating a healthy way of life as the basis of the life of our society. For a healthy way of life, the fight for sobriety is the number one task. Figures may just be figures, but nevertheless these figures should be quoted. The overall mortality rate in our country has fallen from 10.6 to 9.7 per 1,000, and this has taken place virtually over a period of 1 year. We have succeeded in preserving more than 100,000 lives thanks to the great work that is being done in our country. I recall the figures that in the United States it took almost 10 years to reduce the overall mortality rate from 10.6 to approximately the same figure as ours. In our country this was accomplished in just 1 year thanks to what I would call this most important social solution.

"On the subject of our medical practice, I could also quote the following figures--also very important and necessary ones. The number of cases of so-called alcoholic psychosis in our country has fallen by 24 percent. The frequency of cases of alcoholic poisoning--the number of deaths due to alcoholic poisoning--has fallen by 32 percent. All this indicates that the measures that were taken by our party and government have today played a big part in preserving the health of our Soviet people."

"Then there are the health care bodies. It must be said that the health care bodies have recently carried out a great deal of work. Over a short period of time a very large number of people have been brought into this field, a field which unfortunately had been for a long time neglected in medicine. Today, in terms of actual numbers of people, 7,000 doctors in our country are working in this field. We think that this is still not enough; we need to train another roughly 4,000 doctors for these narcological establishments. Today in our country there are 400,000 narcological clinics in operation. There are 125,000 alcoholic treatment beds in the country. But out of those 125,000 beds I would like to emphasize that 86,000 of them are located in industrial enterprises. These are very important, because we are able to cure people of alcoholism, at least in the early stages, but when they go back to their old social environment, after a certain while they start drinking again."

"Are we satisfied with the situation today? I think that all those present here will say not. It's just the very start of the work, and I'll refer again to the figures. The total number of alcoholics that we have in our country under observation has not decreased. Roughly 500,000 are released, and we get 500,000 more coming in. It's very important, when we speak about alcoholism--when everyone says: Ah, it's alcoholism! Ah, that's an alcoholic!--to remember that the people with the disease of alcoholism are a mixed group within which are different categories of people. There are people who themselves want to be treated: this is the category where big success can be achieved. There are people in the early stages who do not want to be treated, and there are, of course, the cases which are far gone where our measures are not very effective. That must be clearly seen and understood. It should be said that a large number of scientific research institutes and centers are working on these questions. Medical science is working actively."

Another participant in the press conference, Professor N.N. Ivanets, director of the All-Union Narcology Science Center, continues: "Primarily they are engaged in fundamental research, and Yevgeniy Ivanovich [Chazov] has stressed their importance and their role at the current stage of scientific development. These centers of ours are carrying out research on a broad front, biological research into the mechanism of the development of alcoholism, and now also the development of drug addiction. It should be said, incidentally, that the overall mechanism of the development of alcohol dependency is the same as that for drug addiction. A new term has now appeared--chemical dependency--and this includes the various dependencies on alcohol, drugs, and all other intoxicating substances. Today we already have an idea of the core mechanisms in the development of that dependency."

"Another aspect of the fundamental research, and one no less important, is what virtually the whole world is now engaged in, the search for the so-called biological markers of predisposition to alcoholism. On drug addiction we don't as yet have any results, so I shall speak only about alcoholism. The preliminary results have now been obtained; in other words, we have already focused approximately on the biological links in the chain that we have to

study in order to try to identify the groups at risk of developing a dependency. In our center we have opened the world's first medicogenetic consultation clinic for carrying out this work."

In a further extract from the press conference, Chazov says: "We have to step up the fight against alcoholism. I would like to talk about something else as well. Today the question of drug addiction has arisen. It is not that it is a new problem, but that it has begun to resound, I would say, in a new way. In our country today we have 46,000 drug addicts under our care. Is that a lot, or is it a few? Well, of course, if you compare it with the main capitalist countries where there are millions or tens of millions, then at first glance 46,000 is a trifling number. But what is worrying in this figure is that the number of young people with this illness has increased by 50 percent. That is what is alarming. That is why the health care bodies and medical science are very actively carrying out studies and striving to find new ways of combating it and providing treatment."

Another participant in the press conference, Academician G.V. Morozov of the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences, notes that the chief reasons why people start taking drugs are curiosity and the desire to imitate others: "About 60 percent take drugs out of curiosity, and some 25 to 27 percent out of the desire to imitate others. That is why people start taking narcotics, particularly young people."

After noting how easy it is to become dependent on drugs, Morozov continues: "The very difficult question now is how to discover who is taking drugs. Few of them come forward of their own accord, and according to our statistics drug addicts are mostly detected by the administrative bodies, the Ministry of Internal Affairs."

The video then cuts to show the inside of an apartment where people under arrest are shown with their hands up facing the walls. The studio explains that this is archive film of a raid on a Moscow apartment this past January.

Returning to the studio, Belyanchikova opens a discussion of the problem of drug addiction:

"[Alekseyev] Drug addiction really is a problem among young people, because more than 70 percent of drug users are under 30. The most important thing of concern to us is to detect in good time the people who are starting to take drugs, so that in the initial stage we can, together with the medical people, help them to rid themselves of this evil."

"The second problem is to do everything we can to ensure that drugs do not reach them. Here there's a whole series of other questions involving the fight against the sources of the drugs, particularly the fight against the people supplying the young people. By that we mean the people who grow the drugs, the people who sell them and make big money out of it, and the people who provide the place to take drugs."

"Incidentally, we say little about this in the press, and the impression is created that these people bear no liability for their actions. That is wrong: they bear a very serious liability and, from the point of view of the law, a fairly severe liability. If it's the person keeping a drug den, then it's 10 years' imprisonment. If the person gets minors involved, then again it's up to 10 years' imprisonment."

"So, as you can see, it's no small liability. In addition, some people think that if they provide the place but don't take a payment for it, then no proceedings can be brought against them. But that's wrong. Whatever the case, whether the person providing the place takes a payment or not, whether it's his apartment, or a boiler room, or anything else, it doesn't matter: people bear liability for all of it."

"[Yegorov] Gennadiy Aleksandrovich was right when he said that the most important thing for us to do now is to detect all those who have the illness of drug addiction or those who have just embarked on this vice so as to give them medical aid in time."

"[Belyanchikova, turning to Alekseyev] Excuse me, but as far as I can see it is probably you who has the greatest opportunity to do this today."

"[Alekseyev] No, I would slightly dispute that. You know, I don't think it would be quite right to make this the chief and most important task of the militia workers alone."

"[Belyanchikova] No, I don't mean that this is their chief task, but in actual fact this is what is happening today."

"[Alekseyev] The most likely reason why this is now happening in actual fact is that when we talk about this evil and this misfortune for a number of families and juveniles, we confine ourselves to the role of the militia and the role of medicine. I for example see that if we are going to talk about juveniles then the main roles have to be played by the pedagogues, the teachers, the doctors, both those in the schools and communities and those specializing in the health of young people. The opportunity that they have is no less than that of the militia workers. After all, they are the specialists. But the trouble no doubt is that neither we nor the medical people teach this to any great extent, we do not even teach the parents."

"[Belyanchikova] In what way do you imagine that work of that kind can be carried out, in what form?"

"[Alekseyev] I am not in a position to give my own recommendations, but I would think that we ought to have a film, a film for the teacher, a film for the vocational and technical college foreman, a film for the parents."

"[Yegorov] Everything we are mentioning is undoubtedly a necessary measure, but these are all measures aimed at active exposure. In this respect we

are already doing a great deal. In the very near future methodological recommendations will be published for this. So I return to my point: as a doctor, of course, as a representative of the health care services, I would most of all like all these sick people to make their own approaches to us."

At this point the program cuts to a clip of a man being interrogated about his dealings in drugs. This is followed by a montage of clips of drug users suffering from withdrawal symptoms and then an interview in a medical office with a 14-year-old boy who is recovering from drug addiction.

Following the interview the program cuts to a further excerpt from the press conference, with Chazov saying:

"I think that the problem of drug addiction is a social problem, a problem of the education of young people, a problem of the spirituality of young people. I would say that we still have a very great deal of work to do here in order to involve young people in problems that affect the whole of mankind, problems concerning education and their development as people."

Morozov then adds: "Obviously, here we consider that our propaganda is insufficient, perhaps we are not yet finding the necessary forms through which people can be made to realize and to understand the consequences to which this will lead. If a drug addict asks for help, then he has to be given medical assistance, and he must be convinced of this fact and he must be well aware of it. I regard that as a very important thing. I am also in favor of drawing in and bringing to light not just people who are suffering from alcoholism, but of attracting the drug addicts, too, and opening up consulting rooms where they can receive treatment on an anonymous basis."

The program concludes with a clip showing a family which had suffered for years from the father's alcoholism, but which has now overcome its problems.

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CSO: 1830/559

SOBRIETY CAMPAIGN OFFICIAL OUTLINES PROBLEMS

LD231515 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 23 May 87

[Text] Two years ago a CPSU Central Committee resolution was adopted on measures to overcome drunkenness and alcoholism. At a regular session of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo the course of its fulfillment was examined. Comrade Chernykh, first deputy chairman of the Central Council of the All-Union Voluntary Society for the Struggle for Sobriety, told a TASS correspondent about how a sober way of life is being established in the country.

Basically, he said, the organizational foundation of the society has been accomplished. Primary organizations have been set up in most labor and study collectives. They unite millions of the best representatives of the working class, the peasantry, the creative intelligentsia, who have become actively involved in the propaganda and establishment of a sober way of life. They are participating in monitoring the observance of the laws, in the struggle against home-distilling of liquor, speculation in spirits, and violation of the trading rules.

Members of the society have joined the ranks of the people's volunteer militia and operational komсомол detachments, and have organized raids.

In the 2 years of the national struggle for sobriety in the country, per capita consumption of alcohol has declined by almost half. Last year, by comparison with 1985, the number of cases of absenteeism based on alcoholism declined by 40 percent. Lost working time fell by a factor of 1.7.

However, it is known that in some regions of the country the production of home-distilled liquor has increased. A vague and seemingly long-forgotten word has returned to our lives. It has returned as a phenomenon technically well equipped, and capable of flourishing in both a rural home and in a town apartment. According to Central Statistical Administration data, in Kazakhstan, for example, in the first quarter of this year the marketing of spirits in roubles fell by almost 30 percent in comparison with the same period of last year. But you do not get a realistic picture of consumption of liquor by taking into account the state sector of the production of spirits alone.

This is how it is. In the first quarter of this year 11,000 tons more sugar was sold in the republic than in the same period last year. It is possible to produce 15 million liters of home-distilled liquor from it. If one adds to that the alcoholic beverages sold in stores it emerges that there has been no reduction in the consumption of liquor at all.

From all that one ought not to draw the pessimistic conclusion that it is impossible to fight drunkenness, Comrade Chernykh continued. Activists in the Society are making a resolute assault on drinking traditions and customs. They are exposing the apparently harmless psychology of acceptable liquor consumption.

Unfortunately in a number of places, as was noted at the session of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, the work to establish a sober way of life is not being carried out everywhere with the necessary persistence, vigor, and consistency. Many local councils of the Society are still not manifesting the necessary adherence to principles. The primary organizations set up in Moscow, Gorkiy, Kuybyshev, Leningrad, and other oblasts are still few in number. They have not determined their place in the general struggle for sobriety. They are copying or replacing other social organizations. Today one cannot get by without a scientific, comprehensive approach to the solution of all the problems of the antialcohol movement. But we have all the social, economic, political, and ideological preconditions for the implementation of radical changes. Resolute action is necessary, Comrade Chernykh stated.

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GOSBANK CHIEF DENIES ORDERING BOOST IN LIQUOR SALE

PM271251 Moscow NEDELYA in Russian No 19, 11-17 May 87 p 3

[Article by V.V. Dementsev, chairman of the USSR Gosbank Board, under the rubric "Rumors and Truth" carried as part of a 2-page feature "No Place for Drunkenness in Life": "Goods are Needed!"--first two paragraphs are NEDELYA introduction]

[Text] NEDELYA readers ask in letters and on the telephone: "Is it true that the USSR Gosbank has issued instructions to increase the sales of alcoholic beverages in view of the shortage of ready cash for the payment of wages?"

The chairman of the USSR Gosbank Board answers this question.

Absolutely wrong. The Gosbank has issued no such instructions.

The CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolutions on overcoming drunkenness and alcoholism envisaged a significant increase in the production and sales of basic foodstuffs, goods for cultural and consumer service purposes, domestic appliances, and other consumer goods in order fully to compensate for the shortfall in commodity turnover resulting from the reduction in sales of wine and vodka products.

Party, soviet, and economic organs were instructed to elaborate and implement practical measures aimed at increasing the output of goods in demand and the volume of services rendered to working people.

But many ministries and departments and local soviet and economic organs still fail to display the proper initiative in seeking out and mobilizing additional commodity resources and have not taken the necessary measures to increase the volume of paid services rendered to the population. Consequently, they fail to ensure the fulfillment of plans for retail trade turnover and sale of paid services.

For example, the January-April 1987 commodity turnover plan was fulfilled only 93.2 percent in the Uzbek SSR, 93.4 percent in the Georgian SSR, and 94 percent in the Armenian SSR, with significant underfulfillment also occurring in a number of other union republics.

Many ministries which are not basically engaged in rendering services to the population fail to meet their set targets for the sale of paid services--the USSR Ministry of Power and Electrification, the USSR Ministry of the Coal Industry, the Ministry of the Electrical Equipment Industry, the Ministry of Transport Construction, and others.

All this has created certain difficulties in balancing the population's monetary income and expenditure.

The CPSU Central Committee Politburo recently reviewed progress in meeting the targets of the Comprehensive Program for the Development of Consumer Goods Production and the Services Sphere in 1986-2000, and demanded that ministries, departments, and union republic councils of ministers take all measures to fulfill and overfulfill the targets set by the Comprehensive Program as regards satisfying the population's requirements for goods and services.

With a view to providing maximum assistance in increasing the production of goods and services, the USSR Gosbank issued the Gosbank's republic offices with appropriate instructions to grant credits to enterprises for the development of consumer goods production and of the base for providing services to the population regardless of any existing credit limits.

Gosbank institutions granted a total of about R1 billion in such credits in 1986, and more than R200 million in January-April 1987.

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CSO: 1830/557

PRESS CONFERENCE ON ANTIALCOHOL PROPAGANDA HELD IN MOSCOW

LD282243 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 28 May 87

[Excerpt] A press conference has been held in Moscow devoted to the questions of improving antialcohol propaganda. It was organized by the All-Union Voluntary Society for the Struggle for Sobriety. It was noted that in the 2 years since the party and the government adopted the decisions in question, considerable work has been carried out to establish a sober way of life and to create intolerance toward drunkenness. However, antialcohol work is still not consistent and forceful everywhere. In some places it has weakened substantially.

In a number of places a formal approach to this important problem has helped the sobriety zones declared there to become seats of debauchery, drunkenness, and liquor distillation. The system of vouchers for the purchase of spirits, which is still operating in the Karelia ASSR and Kirov Oblast is helping to spread alcoholism among the population as well.

Participants in the press conference stressed the need to develop vigorously the movement for a sober way of life, increasing the role of the media in the antialcohol propaganda.

Here is an interview which (Konstantin Dmitriyevich Khodunkov), deputy chairman of the Stavropol Kray organization of the Voluntary Society for the Struggle for Sobriety, gave for our correspondent:

[Begin (Khodunkov) recording] In our view we have managed to create a healthy moral and psychological atmosphere at factories. And perhaps the main thing is that we have prevented the young from bouts of drinking. But what are the problems? We have not managed to break the psychology of many people, including officials, over the necessity for this work. Moreover, many such people are trying to regard this Society for the Struggle for Sobriety as some kind of sect. But this is really a society of genuine fighters, which should be joined by communists, Komsomol members, and leading workers, and they should then go out to conduct the work. Not everybody understands that. That is, without question, a great problem. And not everywhere have we succeeded yet in changing young people--they understand it, they support it, but evidently we still have some work to do on that score. Perhaps we are only saying that it is bad to drink, that it will lead to certain consequences when a person is in his 50's or thereabouts. But if he is still 23, he is not thinking about when he is 50. Evidently some new forms need to be sought. [end recording]

UNEMPLOYMENT PROBLEMS IN GEORGIA DOWNPLAYED

Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English 17 May 87 p 9

[Interview with Rusudan Dzhaparidze, chairman of the Republican Committee for Labour]

[Text] "I can assure you that there is no one in Georgia unable to get a job in his or her chosen field."

Q: But I know personally quite a number of teachers living in Tbilisi who can't get even a part-time job in the field they were trained in.

A: You're right. It is difficult to find employment in the schools of Tbilisi and in some other large cities, there is a waiting list. I'll add that it is just as difficult for physicians to get a job in those cities. At the same time, however, there aren't enough physicians and teachers in rural areas. Some graduates of teachers training and medical institutes do not want to go to the villages. This I see as an indication of their low level of civil consciousness, and as a result of shortcomings in the existing system of admission to higher educational establishments. Young specialists who come from villages and enroll in colleges usually go back. However, a section of city dwellers do not want to work as school teachers. They have no calling for teaching children. Our Committee held a sociological investigation in 1985 which revealed that 95 percent of the 11,000 teachers who did not work were housewives. They graduated from the institute, then married and are now engaged only in family affairs.

Q: Don't you think that these facts are the inadequate result of the free education we are so proud of? For some people, a diploma in higher education becomes a kind of dowry which is received not from parents but from the state.

A: You're right, to some extent. But this does not mean that we must give up free education. On the contrary, we are now heading for increase in the number of scholarships: more students will be sent from work collectives. For example, if a collective farms needs agronomists, engineers and physicians, it will send to a college young people who have a calling for the above professions.

But there is competition and, usually, many more would-be students than college places. In competitive exams city dwellers do better than students of their age in rural areas, since teaching standards in cities are higher and there is an opportunity to engage a skilled coach. Graduates from rural schools get a "favour" when they are sent for studying to departments preparing specialists for rural areas. Instead of competitive exams they sit checking examinations, are admitted to a college and then receive a grant throughout the term of study. They get this money, which amounts to their wages, from the work collective which sent them to study, and to which they will return as soon as they receive a diploma.

Q: In the course of economic reform, modernization and reconstruction enterprises have started to get rid of redundant workers. If today we have no unemployment in the full sense of this word, we may have it after a few years, if this tendency continues?

A: Proceeding from the formal logic, this is what actually may take place. But you have given a simplified picture. What will happen in reality? The economic reform now under way in our country sets itself the target of making the economy more dynamic and of raising labour productivity. Its accelerated growth, other things being equal, will entail a reduction of workers engaged in the production sphere. According to our calculations, about 80,000 people will be released from their present jobs in Georgia alone by the end of the current five-year period. But they will not be jobless. More than 51,000 will be employed in 169 new industrial projects, to be built over these five years. Altogether, the Republic's national economy will need 138,000 new workers during this period. Labour productivity will still be growing at the end of the 20th century and people will be released. But the services, now lagging behind in the country, will develop increasingly from year to year. In economically advanced Western countries many more people are engaged in the service industry than in production branches. In our country it is the other way around, as yet.

We go still further: it is already the 21st century, the consumer services employ the number of workers they need, labour productivity growth rates remain high, and the working day becomes shorter and people have more opportunities for going in for sport, art, literature and travel.

The magazine STERN reported recently that about 1,500 million overtime hours were worked in the Federal Republic of Germany in 1986. At the same time 900,000 young people rushed about the country in search of jobs. These 1,500 million hours, as maintained by Winfried Maas, the author of the article, would give them work for a year.

We, too, in our Republic resort to overtime work, as in the whole of the country. This is not only because we are short of manpower. Overtime work is regarded as an indicator of bad labour organization and for this the heads of enterprises are punished. It is given with the special permission of trade union centres. For the communist society of the future a four-hour working day is envisaged and jobs for everyone. We shall most probably not arrive at this before the middle of the next century. To speak about any danger of unemployment in our country, therefore, even about its spectre, is not relevant in the foreseeable future.

NON-LITHUANIANS IN LISSR URGED TO LEARN VERNACULAR

Vilnius SOVETSKAYA LITVA in Russian 21 Apr 87 p 2

[Article by A. Gelbakh: "We Are Internationalists: Friendship Does Not Tolerate Sham"]

[Text] "Labas rytas!", "Labas diena!", "Labas vakaras!" ("Good Morning!", "Good Afternoon!", "Good Evening!"). How often we hear these splendid, kind words. They are accompanied by a bright smile and emphasize the joy of meeting acquaintances, friends, and comrades. But now some very stupid, boorish person has decided that the first word of greeting can be pronounced with an ironic shading, in order to designate that the other person is of Lithuanian nationality.

And in his own "clique," in the circle of those persons who speak Russian, this word hardly sounds ordinary any longer. At times it is thrown out as a crude insult to a Lithuanian, after getting into an argument in a line, in a store, at a streetcar or bus stop.

How should such instances be regarded? As ordinary manifestations of unworthiness, which our society is not yet free of? Perhaps this would be too simple. The nature of such actions need to be designated more rigorously and precisely: a transgression against the friendship of fraternal peoples. Because these actions can also be engendered in insufficiently strengthened souls and give rise to nationalistic hostilities. And it is particularly dreadful that we who ordinarily consider ourselves to be just about a priori internationalists commit such transgressions.

A lack of respect for the language, a lack of knowledge or interest in studying the indigenous traditions of the people on whose land you are living, with the representatives of which you work--this primarily attests to a lack of internal cultural standards, and a manifestation of bad upbringing and education. Nor does it help to make statements such as the following, which we very often hear in justification of the above-cited actions:

"I don't care who is alongside of me, whether it's a Lithuanian or, let's say, a Belorussian. I treat everybody the same. But I don't intend to show any greater respect just because someone belongs to a certain nation...."

This formula would seem to have everything right. Yet it has an extremely essential flaw. An educated person must treat representatives of other peoples the same (i.e., equally), but he must also respectfully and very tactfully manifest an unfeigned interest in them. But some of us, let's admit it, often understand "the same" to mean the same feeling of disparagement or indifference to the culture of another nation.

Within our multi-national country it was hardly by any directive-type procedure but rather by virtue of the historical conditions that evolved that Russian became the language of inter-national communication or, as it has been very correctly termed, the language of friendship between peoples. And today an absolute majority of Soviet people can express themselves fluently in Russian. But does this mean that because Russian--my native language--can be used by me and be understood by everybody, I should not be interested or expend efforts to study the language of the people of the republic in which I live? No, and again no. Even if only for the reason that we must respect the right and the desire of people to communicate among themselves, in their own homeland and in their own native language. Because we cannot categorically demand that just because of you alone, the one person who does not understand Lithuanian, a meeting or a conference of a large collective must be conducted in Russian.

Of course, it could be objected here that our country has more than 100 nations and nationality groups living in it, each of which has its own language. Well then, would you order people to master all of them? No one has the capacity to do that. Therefore, even a requirement for an obligatory knowledge of the language of the indigenous nationality of a Union republic could not be equitable for everyone who comes there. But persons who work and live for a long time in such a republic could and should set themselves the task of studying the language, even if it is only to the extent of understanding it. Because, you know, by doing this, without even expending too much effort, we also show respect for the people on whose land we are living. But insufficient respect leads to a situation whereby conflicts arise that should not be.

And we have already encountered problems in the study of Lithuanian in this republic by persons for whom it is not the native language, and we would like to state our positions frankly on this matter. For adults there are fee-type courses now operating with their own programs and classes. Their creation is undoubtedly important and praiseworthy. But not everyone, gray-haired, busy with his work, and burdened with a family, will find the time and strength to attend classes. For such persons language study must not amount to any great fuss and bother, nor should it require any "super-efforts" from them. The language could become more known from communicating with people at work and in everyday life. In the manifest desire to read newspapers, magazines, and books in Lithuanian, but.... Here is where we encounter initial and extremely significant difficulties. Up to now our republic has not made up the shortage in Russian-Lithuanian and Lithuanian-Russian dictionaries. There are not even enough of them to provide the pupils and general-educational schools. There is also an extremely small amount of other sources to assist people in mastering the conversational language comparatively fast and without any particular strain.

Why not, for example, introduce Lithuanian language lessons on television? Why not have feature films, which are dubbed into Lithuanian also on television, furnished with Russian sub-titles? Why, finally, why doesn't the journal LITVA LITERATURNAYA, which is intended for the Russian reader, introduce a modest-sized section of 1--3 pages, where a Russian translation would be printed along with the original text in Lithuanian. ?

There are quite a few such "Whys?"; and surely each one should be studied, and each one should not merely be answered but conscientious attempts be made to solve the problem.

Vladimir Ilich Lenin warned that we needed to show "particular care in our attitude toward national feeling." And practical experience has reaffirmed that many insults and misunderstandings could be avoided if we took the trouble to give some thought to the problem and calmly interpret certain facts.

We all know, for example, how extremely heated the passions of sports fans can get at times, even in cases where the competing teams are not national ones but simply various clubs. To persons not subject to this passion, the extreme emotionality with which the adherents of the victorious team express their joy is always shocking. And what if a deciding game is won by a team personifying the achievements of the national sport? In that case, we would be inclined to perceive the extremely emotional manifestations of the fans at times at practically an outburst of nationalism. And indeed this is, more often than not, an elementary lack of emotional discipline of a portion of the people that does not know how to nor wishes to restrain its passions and allows them to be whipped up.

We write and say that the friendship between the peoples of our multinational, socialist Homeland is unbreakable. And this is indeed the case. It does not require any additional proofs because the proofs have already been accumulated by the historical process of the state's development, by the joint military and labor exploits of all peoples of the fraternal republics. And the conclusion that the nationality problem in the form that we inherited from the tsarist regime is scarcely doubted by anyone except the malicious enemies of socialism. At the January (1987) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, however, it was emphasized that the "negative phenomena and deformations against which we have been struggling have also manifested themselves in the sphere of nationality relations." A recent resolution entitled "On Measures to Improve International and Patriotic Education" was adopted by the Communist Party of Lithuania Central Committee. Not everything in our country's nationality relations has turned out as cheerfully as we have become accustomed to write about.

Insults and misunderstandings, if we belittle them as before, could grow into a stagnant, extremely unhealthy phenomenon. Therefore, we must speak about it openly in order to understand each other better and not to hide a stone in our breast.

Here is just one example. The film producer-director N.A. Lyuboshits, an Honored Cultural Figure of the LiSSR, wrote to SOVETSKAYA LITVA. He stated

his dissatisfaction with regard to the article on the development of cinematography in the republic, as printed in the "Kino" Encyclopedic Dictionary recently published in Moscow. He was particularly disturbed by the part which talked about documentary films. And not only because he could not find his own name, although he had a right to count on this: many of his films and newsreels, made during the period from the 1940s through the 1970s won awards and prizes at various film festivals. Nor did he find in this article mention of the names of many of his comrades--some still living, others dead--who worked in this republic's documentary films during the initial, perhaps, most complex and difficult post-war years. Among them were the producer-directors I. Kravchunovskiy, G. Levkoev, A. Korenev, A. Pavlova, and the cameramen B. Sokolov, M. Poichenko, M. Segal, and P. Kolabukhov.

It is possible that their contribution to the republic's documentary films was not really so great, and it is possible that the critic M. Maltzene, who prepared the article for the Encyclopedic Dictionary, was correct in emphasizing that in the Lithuanian SSR the "dawn and maturity of documentary film making (1963-1975) were linked with the coming into documentary films of young graduates from the VGIK [All-Union State Institute of Cinematography].... Nevertheless, she probably should have mentioned those who, insofar as their own skills and talent allowed, helped in the emergence of the Lithuanian documentary film. This would have been a duty, a monument to our friendship. Now, to be sure, as we were informed from the Presidium of the Board of the LiSSR Cinematographers' Union, corrections and supplements prepared by the film critics S. Valyulis and M. Maltzene, have been sent to the editors of the "Kino" Encyclopedic Dictionary. But they will be included only in the next edition, which will not be published for some time....

The friendship between our country's fraternal peoples has strong, reliable roots, which nobody will succeed in either undermining or undercutting. And everything which I have written about today really can and must be relegated to the category of insignificant, petty misunderstandings. Previously we tried not to pay attention to them, not to mention them aloud. Customarily only mutual compliments were considered to be "good form." And the insults were hidden a bit deeper. But true friendship must be open and free from sham. Because it has no need of it.

All of us, Lithuanians and Russians, Belorussians and Ukrainians, as well as representatives of other nations and nationalities living in one country, in one republic, must safeguard our friendship equally from pretentious conceit and from inappropriate flattery. Friendship needs honesty and directness. They nourish sincere respect, and they help us to get along without secret insults.

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CSO: 1800/559

BRIEFS

PRAVDA CONDOLENCES ON MINE DEATHS--A methane gas explosion occurred at the "Chaykino" Mine in Donetsk Oblast 16 May 1987 and caused human casualties. The CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the USSR Council of Ministers express profound condolences to the families and relatives of those who died and to the mine's workers and engineering and technical personnel. The USSR Government and republic organs are taking measures to give assistance to the dead miners' families and to ascertain the causes and eliminate the consequences of the accident. The CPSU Central Committee. The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. The USSR Council of Ministers. [Condolence message on Ukrainian mine deaths: "From the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the USSR Council of Ministers"] [Text] [Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 May 87 Second Edition p 1 PM] /12858

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